October 2015

UMCCTS Newsletter, October 2015

UMass Center for Clinical and Translational Science

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New! TL1-Training Program
UMCCTS Pre- and Post-doctoral Fellowship Training Program
Call for Applications

The UMass Center for Clinical and Translational Science received its first Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Training grant under the direction and senior leadership of Drs. Silvia Corvera and Kate Lapane.

The TL1 will engage pre- / post-doctoral fellows in training across the entire translational spectrum (T0: bench science, T1: translation to humans, proof of concept, phase 1 trials; T2: translation to patients: phase 2 and 3 trials; T3: diffusion to clinical practice, Phase 4, outcomes; and T4: population-based outcomes research) to participate in a common clinical and translational science program on our UMMS campus.

The TL1 program seeks to:

- Train and nurture highly qualified pre-doctoral and post-doctoral trainees through the provision of a novel, multifaceted, rigorous TL1 program in clinical and translational research;
- Provide trainees with strong mentoring teams, rigorous academic training tailored to their research interests, and technical skills necessary to ensure success as independent investigators and contributors to team science; and
- Provide “hands on” research experience within transdisciplinary teams building on the strengths of current linkages between UMass Departments, Centers, and Institutes.
The Pre- and Post-doctoral Fellowship (TL1) Training Program is requesting applications from trainees who wish to become part of this exciting new program, at either the postdoctoral or predoctoral (graduate student) levels. Note: T0 only projects will not be part of this program.

**Deadline date for Applications:** Friday, October 23, 2015

[Click here](#) for complete information and to apply.

**Questions?** Please contact [Nathaniel.Hafer@umassmed.edu](mailto:Nathaniel.Hafer@umassmed.edu)
NEW! UMCCTS Community Research Innovative Scholars Program (CRISP)

Call for Applications

The UMCCTS Community Research Innovative Scholars Program (CRISP) is pleased to announce a call for applications to this new and innovative program.

The goal of the CRISP is to support the development of independent UMass researchers who conduct community engaged research. Community engaged research involves collaborative research with community partners along the translational research continuum.

**Deadline date for Applications:** Monday, November 9, 2015

**Click here** for complete information and eligibility for this innovative program.

**Questions?** Please contact Amy.Borg@umassmed.edu
UMMS Human Research Protection Education Program
New IDC-10 Version

Margaret Koziel, MD, Assistant Vice Provost, Clinical Research

On October 1, the coding system for medical diagnoses and inpatient procedures, the International Classification for Diseases (ICD) will undergo a major revision from the current version (ICD-9) to a new version that is substantially different in structure, composition and level of details. This will have major implications for registries, medical record searches, case report forms and virtually all research that uses diagnostic or inpatient procedure codes for any patient records that cross the October 1, 2015 date.

While many clinicians will have received training with respect to the implications for clinical practice, we have created a brief (15 minute) Power Point presentation targeted at clinical research professionals and researchers who 1) have not had any exposure or training on the ICD-10 transition, and/or 2) feel like they need additional information as to the potential impact of the transition on the conduct of human research. The presentation can be viewed with or without audio.

Please visit the HRPP Education website and look for the Newest Information box to access the presentations:

Questions? Please contact Margaret.Koziel@umassmed.edu or Jesica.Pagano-Therrien@umassmed.edu
UMass Medical School Acquires Oncore Clinical Trials Management System

Jomol P. Mathew, PhD, Associate CIO & Head of Research Computing & Data Innovation, Information Technology, UMMS

On September 30th, 2015, the UMass Medical School reached an agreement with Forte Research System, Inc. to license OnCore enterprise research software to support our clinical trials management operations. The system will allow PIs, study teams and administrators to use a unifying system to facilitate clinical trial billing, ensure compliance, increase transparency and provide rapid access to data on enrollment, subject calendars and other important data. The system will provide clinical trial budgeting capabilities, enable monitoring of milestones, and invoicing. Additionally the system will help in auditing and reporting. As the UMass Memorial Health Care implements EPIC, Oncore will be integrated with EPIC so that care providers will be able to see patient’s enrollment in protocols - an important step towards improving patient safety.

The implementation is currently scheduled to kick off towards the end of 2015, with adoption by study teams in mid-2016.

New Clinical Data Portal

Jomol P. Mathew, PhD, Associate CIO & Head of Research Computing & Data Innovation, Information Technology, UMMS

UMass Medical School Research Computing recently launched the Clinical Data Portal to provide a single gateway for UMMS research community of clinicians and researchers to access clinical data. The website lays out the different requirements of accessing de-identified clinical data and clinical data with protected health information. One of the new self-service features offered allows PIs to complete a detailed clinical data request for patient demographics, diagnosis, procedures, medications and lab results without having to make a phone call or email. More clinical and research data types and self-service features will be added to the portal in the future.

The UMMS Human Research Protection Program also provides a link to the Clinical Data Portal on their website, left navigation column.
HHS Announces Proposal to Improve Rules Protecting Human Research Subjects

Changes proposed to ensure the highest standards of protections for human subjects involved in research, while enhancing effectiveness of oversight

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and fifteen other Federal Departments and Agencies have announced proposed revisions to the regulations for protection of human subjects in research. A Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) was published in the Federal Register on September 8, 2015. The NPRM seeks comment on proposals to better protect human subjects involved in research, while facilitating valuable research and reducing burden, delay, and ambiguity for investigators.

There will be several in-person or webinar meetings to inform the public about the proposed changes to the federal policy for the protection of research volunteers.

Click here to be directed to the HHS webpage for complete information, registration, and webinar links.
UMCCTS User Satisfaction
Online Survey

The goals of the UMass Center for Clinical and Translational Science (UMCCTS) are to accelerate the translation of basic discoveries into practical, cost effective solutions that improve human health and to develop and support the next generation of leaders in clinical and translational research.

The UMCCTS provides numerous programs and services towards these efforts. Your feedback and comments via this survey help us to continually strive to make these services the best, most valuable and most relevant to our users/members.

Thank you for taking a few moments to take this survey.

Please click here to be directed to the survey.
Life Sciences Moment Fund
2009 – present

26 Projects
$3.6 mil
62 Researchers
IN
29 Different Departments

ACROSS ALL 5 CAMPUSES

31 Researchers
$1,695,351 (48%)
Medical School

19 Researchers
$959,774 (27%)
Amherst

5 Researchers
$381,893 (11%)
Lowell

6 Researchers
$311,701 (9%)
Boston

1 Researcher
$75,000 (2%)
Dartmouth

26 Projects
$3.6 mil
62 Researchers
29 Different Departments

PRODUCING

37 Peer-Reviewed Papers
14 New Grant Applications
$15.7 mil New Grant Funding from 9 Different Funding Bodies
42 Young Investigators Trained

The UMass Center for Clinical and Translational Science is part of the Clinical and Translational Science Award (CTSA) program, funded by the National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences (Grant # UL1-TR001453) at the National Institutes of Health (NIH).
NLM Announces Inaugural Annual Donald Lindberg and Donald King Lecture

The National Library of Medicine (NLM) is pleased to announce the first annual Donald A.B. Lindberg & Donald West King Lecture, co-sponsored by the NLM, Friends of the National Library of Medicine and the American Medical Informatics Association.

Russell Altman, MD, PhD
Stanford University
Stanford, CA
https://people.stanford.edu/rbaltman/

“Integrating Multi-scale Data for Biomedical Discovery and Clinical Implementation”

This program was originally presented on October 7th, but has been archived for later viewing at:

Department of Molecular, Cell and Cancer Biology Seminar Series

Yi Zhang, Ph.D.
Professor, Department of Genetics & Department of Pediatrics
Harvard Medical School and Boston Children’s Hospital

“Understanding DNA demethylation and somatic cell nuclear transfer”

Tuesday, October 13, 2015
11:00 AM

5th Floor Conference Room 516
Lazare Medical Research Building – University Campus
Hosted by: Michael Green, M.D., Ph.D.
Tuesday, October 13, 2015
12:00 – 1:00 PM

"Gene Regulatory Circuits in Normal and Malignant Lymphocytes"

Eugene Oltz, Ph.D.
Professor of Pathology & Immunology
Director, Immunology Graduate Program
Washington University School of Medicine
St. Louis, MO

Albert Sherman Center
AS8-2072

Host: Rachel Gerstein, Ph.D., 508-856-1044

Pizza will be served following the seminar.
“The Role of JMJD1A in Anoikis and Breast Cancer Metastasis”

Victoria Pedanou
Graduate Student – Green Lab
Department of Molecular, Cell & Cancer Biology

Wednesday, October 14, 2015
8:00 AM ~ 9:00 AM
Lazare Research Building
4th Floor Conference Room / 416

Hosted by: Leslie Shaw, Ph.D. (6-8675)
DOUGLAS R GREEN, PHD
Doherty Chair of Immunology
St Jude Children’s Research Hospital

Born Different: Metabolic maintenance of asymmetric T cell division

Wednesday, October 14, 2015
11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
AS2.2102 (Auditorium)
Dr. Robert Sege is Vice President of the Medical Foundation Division at Health Resources in Action, which directs several of the region’s most influential health-related private foundation grant programs. In 2014, they managed 11 client grant programs, including the Charles H. Hood Foundation, Charles A. King Trust and the Smith and Klarman Family Foundations which:

- Awarded approximately $17.7M
- Made awards to 63 basic and 22 physician scientists at 50 research institutions
- Funded numerous disciplines, including biochemistry, nanotechnologies, preclinical animal disease models and clinical outcomes research

The CUBE, Albert Sherman Center, UMass Medical School

*Lunch will be provided- please RSVP to Karen.Gardiner@umassmed.edu
Dr. Luzuriaga to deliver lecture on October 15 on HIV as part of Fairman Cowan Lecture Series

Article from the UMass Med Now September 30, 2015 issue

Katherine Luzuriaga, MD, the UMass Memorial Professor of Biomedical Research, Professor of Molecular Medicine, Pediatrics, and Medicine, Vice Provost for Clinical and Translational Research and Global Health, and Director, UMass Center for Clinical and Translational Science, will present the Tenth Fairman Cowan Collegiate Lecture, sponsored by the Worcester Regional Research Bureau.

Thursday, October 15, 2015
5:30 pm
Albert Sherman Center, The Cube (3rd Floor)
University of Massachusetts Medical School, Worcester

Dr. Luzuriaga will discuss advances and challenges in eradicating pediatric HIV infection, based on her nearly three decades of research in the field of HIV and pediatric immunology.

The Research Bureau serves the public interest of Greater Worcester by conducting independent, non-partisan research and analysis of public policy issues to promote informed public debate and decision-making. For 30 years, the Research Bureau has worked to protect the public interest in by identifying issues, investigating impacts, and educating the public and government officials about opportunities and best practices.

The Fairman Cowan Lectures are a yearlong series at Worcester’s colleges designed to be an accessible and timely introduction to interesting topics taught or researched on local campuses. Cowan was the former general counsel for the Norton Co. who founded a number of Worcester civic institutions, including what was then called the Worcester Municipal Research Bureau.

The lecture will be followed by a reception.

Seating is limited, RSVP to info@wrrb.org
The Bioinformatics Core invites you to our 2015-2016 Seminar Series kickoff

Oliver Rando, MD, PhD
Rasim Barutcu, Imbalzano Lab
Alper Kucukural, PhD

"Small/RNA-Seq Data Processing and Analysis - Biocore"

Thursday
October 15, 2015
11:00 AM
Albert Sherman Center
6th Floor Conference Room 2072

Host: Manuel Garber, Associate Professor Bioinformatics and Integrative Biology
Director Bioinformatics Core
University of Massachusetts Medical School
UMMS Human Research Protection Education Program

Clinical Research Professionals Group

The Clinical Research Professionals Group (CRPG) consists of clinical research staff throughout the University of Massachusetts Medical School (UMMS), including Principal Investigators, Study Coordinators, Research Nurses, Administrators, and others. All research staff are invited to be part of the CRPG regardless of their role or background in clinical research.

CRPG meets once per month. Meetings are a forum for presentations and discussion on a variety of topics, including:

- enhancing the protection of human subjects in research
- best practices in clinical research
- policies and procedures related to the implementation of human subjects research

If you are interested in being part of the CRPG to receive important announcements, please email HRPeducation@umassmed.edu to be added to the email distribution list.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location at UMMS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday, October 19</td>
<td>12:00 – 1:00 pm</td>
<td>Hiatt Auditorium S1-608</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, November 16</td>
<td>3:00 – 4:00 pm</td>
<td>Hiatt Auditorium S1-608</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, December 16</td>
<td>12:00 – 1:00 pm</td>
<td>Lazare Auditorium S1-607</td>
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For questions about educational offerings or if you have a topic you would like to see the HRPP Education Program address, please email HRPeducation@umassmed.edu
QHS SPECIAL SEMINAR

Monday, October 19, 2015
3:30 – 4:30 PM

Albert Sherman Building, AS9-2072

“Optimal Reproductive Health for a Healthy Future”

Presented by: Jean Ko, PhD and Cheryl Robbins, PhD
Division of Reproductive Health
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Scientific Basis of Medicine
Interprofessional Seminar Series

Metabolism, Diet and Disease

Michael P. Czech, PhD
Silvia Corvera, MD
Richard A. Perugini, MD
Nancy Morris, PhD, ANP
Pranoti Mandrekar, PhD

Tuesday, October 20th
Lunch at 12 Noon
Seminar from 12:20-1:30

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Amphitheater I
(UMMS S2-102)

Sponsored through funding by the UMMS Interprofessional Education Grant (IPEG) Program and the GSBS Program in Translational Sciences.
This presentation will review key considerations for medical device startups during product development. Topics include connecting regulatory and business strategies, interacting with the FDA and Notified Bodies, and updates on recent industry changes (e.g., ISO 13485, IVDR and FDA regulation updates).

Those who should attend:

The topics discussed are relevant to experienced medical device professionals as well as those new to the industry. This seminar is designed for those who need a better understanding of the regulatory requirements surrounding medical devices. Those with backgrounds in the pharmaceutical or biotechnology industries, scientists, engineers and technicians working on device design and development, product managers, business development managers, marketing professionals, QA/QC personnel, regulatory affairs professionals, and investment and acquisition specialists will all benefit from this seminar.
Register Now!

Registration Fee first 20 people: $10.00
Registration until October 19, 2015: $20.00
Registration Fee October 20, 2015: $30.00
LEARNING ABOUT THE IND/IDE PROCESS AND REIMBURSEMENTS FOR NEW DRUGS AND DEVICES

WHEN
October 23
2015

WHERE
Colloquium Room
Boston University
Photonics Center
8 St Mary's Street
Boston, MA

www.bu.edu/cftcc

SPEAKERS
Erin O'Reilly, PhD, RAC
Assoc. Director, Regulatory Affairs
Duke Translational Medicine Institute

Erika Segar Johnson, PhD, RAC
Regulatory Affairs Scientist,
Duke Translational Medicine Institute

Jo Ellen Slurzberg
VP Global Health Policy
JR Associates

EDUCATION GOALS
To introduce the basics of filing an Investigational New Drug (IND) Application with the FDA
To introduce the basics of filing an Investigational Device Exemption (IDE) Application with the FDA
To introduce the basics of reimbursement (coverage, codes, and payment) as these processes intersect in the current and evolving healthcare environment, including aspects of the Affordable Care Act, and will focus on creating an implementable strategy for a product so it can be successfully commercialized.

MORE INFO

This program is provided by the Boston University School of Medicine. Boston University School of Medicine is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

Boston University School of Medicine designates this live activity for a maximum of 6.5 AMA PRA category 1 Credits™. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

To request reasonable accommodations for a disability please notify lenais@bu.edu, in writing, at least two weeks prior to the conference.

https://escholarship.umassmed.edu/umccts_news/vol2015/iss9/1
Measuring Outcomes and Process in Community Based Participatory Research (CBPR)

Thursday October 29th, 12:15-1:30pm Alumni Hall

Dr. Bonnie Duran, Director of the University of Washington Center for Indigenous Health Research, will discuss her experience implementing and sustaining community-based mechanisms to address health disparities. Dr. Duran has worked in public health education, evaluation, program planning and research with Native Americans and other communities of color for 35 years. Her work focuses on designing treatment and prevention efforts that are empowering, culture-centered, effective and sustainable, with maximum public health impact.

“(…) there is so much knowledge and wisdom to be learned from our community partners. Being open to that bi-directional and multi-directional learning is really important. Also, a little bit of cultural humility is important. We can’t think that since we have these fancy academic titles, we somehow are smarter or know what’s best for a community.”

Excerpt from an interview with the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (July 2015)

Dr. Linda Silka is a social and community psychologist by training, with much of her work focusing on building community-university research partnerships. She has several decades of experience in leading community-university research partnerships on environmental, economic development, and environmental health issues.

PROGRAM
12:15pm Arrival & light refreshments
12:30pm Welcome and Introductions
12:35pm Community-University Research Partnerships: Dr. Linda Silka
1:00pm Outcomes and Process in Community Based Participatory Research, Dr. Bonnie Duran

ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND

Please spread the word to your colleagues and students. Light refreshments will be served.
For additional information contact Professor Maria Brunette, Maria_Brunette@uml.edu.

Sponsored by the College of Health Sciences, Division of Public Health
### From Chemical to Drug – The Path to a Small Molecule IND

**Best Practices When Filing Small Molecule Investigational New Drug Applications**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11:30 am</td>
<td>Registration, Lunch, and Networking</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:30 pm</td>
<td>Opening Remarks</td>
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<td>Brendan O’Leary, Executive Vice Chancellor, Office of Innovation and Business Development, UMMS</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:45 pm</td>
<td>Janssen Research &amp; Development – Your partner of choice</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:00 pm</td>
<td>Preclinical Development Strategies</td>
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<td>Designing drugable molecules with appropriate kinetics and metabolism</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Preclinical toxicology evaluations before and during GLP toxicology</td>
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<td>Considerations for typical First-in-Human (FIH) Program</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:30 pm</td>
<td>Chemistry, Manufacturing and Controls Strategies</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Optimizing manufacture of your Active Pharmaceutical Ingredient (API)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Drug product formulations for FIH</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:00 pm</td>
<td>Coffee Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:15 pm</td>
<td>Clinical Pharmacology</td>
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<td>Designing FIH trials</td>
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<td>Understanding PK/PD</td>
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<td>Biomarkers of safety and efficacy</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:45 pm</td>
<td>Regulatory Overview</td>
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<td>Data requirements: CMC, safety, clinical plan</td>
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<td>eCTD</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Pre-IND meetings</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Regulatory strategy</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:15 pm</td>
<td>Discussion and Q&amp;A</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:30 pm</td>
<td>Program Close</td>
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</table>

**Do you have a solid plan to achieve IND acceptance?** Filing an Investigational New Drug (IND) application might be the next step in advancing your early-stage drug development idea. Johnson & Johnson Innovation, JLABS, and Janssen Discovery Sciences invite you to an in-depth look into the process of filing an IND. Whether your goal is to develop a pipeline through commercial launch or partner as early as possible, submitting an IND is a critical early milestone for every biotech project. With big Pharma and VC firms competing for the most promising compounds, startups are expected to demonstrate a clear blueprint for IND approval, and we want you to be ready.

**Tuesday, November 17, 2015**

**11:30 am – 3:30 pm**

**Albert Sherman Center, Auditorium (2nd floor)**

**UMass Medical School, Worcester**

Lunch will be served

**REGISTER TODAY!**

7th Annual CUGH Conference
Bridging to a Sustainable Future in Global Health
April 9–11, 2016
Satellite Sessions April 8, 2016
Hilton Union Square, San Francisco

Save the date!
Join more than 1,500 global health students and leaders from over 50 nations to explore global health sustainability themes and the role universities play in advancing health equity worldwide.
For more information and to register early, visit cugh.org.

Featured Speakers Include
- Anthony Fauci, National Institute for Allergy and Infectious Diseases
- Richard Horton, The Lancet
- Christopher Murray, Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation
- Roberto Tapia, Instituto Carlos Slim de la Salud
- Gavin Yamey, Duke University

Featured Sub-themes
- Education
- Eradication
- Global Health Financing
- Global Health Security
- Global Mental Health
- Governance
- HIV
- Innovation
- Planetary Health
- Risk Factors for NCDs
- Sustainable Development Goals
- Urban Health
- Vaccines
- Violence

Conference Highlights
10 Plenary Sessions
5 Breakout Periods
500 Poster Presentations
2 Days of Exhibitor Booths

Global Health Film Festival
- Global Health videos by the Pulitzer Center for Crisis Reporting
- 3rd Annual CUGH Video Awards

Student Sessions
Opportunities for student engagement during pre-conference Satellite Sessions and within the Core Agenda

Activities and Awards
- Reflections in Global Health
- Annual Velji Awards
- Lancet/CUGH Best Student Posters
- Untold Global Health Stories

Gairdner Lecture Series
Lecture by the 2016 Gairdner Global Health Awardee
The Consortium of Universities for Global Health (CUGH) is a rapidly growing Washington, DC based organization of over 130 academic institutions and other organizations from around the world engaged in addressing global health challenges. CUGH was established in 2008 with generous funding from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and The Rockefeller Foundation.

Mission
To build interdisciplinary collaborations between universities and other sectors to facilitate the sharing and implementation of knowledge to strengthen academic global health programs and address global health challenges. CUGH works across education, research, and service. It is dedicated to creating equity and reducing health disparities, particularly in low-income settings. CUGH promotes mutually beneficial partnerships between universities and other sectors in developed and developing countries to strengthen human capital and institutional capabilities. It is committed to translating knowledge into action.

Vision
Making the university a transforming force in global health.

Activities
Impact
Working to bridge the knowledge-needs gap by increasing access to innovations that can address global health challenges; fostering the dissemination and implementation of evidence-based high impact interventions; facilitating effective partnerships between institutions in high and low income countries and between them and governments, foundations, NGOs, and the private sector to achieve these goals.

Advocacy
Creating policy-related information, tools, events, and partnerships to support global health institutions and the sustained growth of members’ programs and activities.

Capacity Building
Utilizing the capabilities in academic institutions to help build capacity across disciplines in low-income communities and institutions.

Education
Developing interdisciplinary educational curricula, and resources. CUGH is a resource center for information, materials, and services that support global health education, research, and service activities.

Enabling Systems
Facilitating inter-university information exchanges and developing global operational tools and resources that will strengthen university-based global health programs.

Communications and Information Resources
A global health information hub (cugh.org) has been created for the academic community, policymakers, the private sector, NGOs, and the public. Information about educational materials, forums, best practices, policy updates, training modules, funding, research opportunities, and other relevant content across disciplines is available on the site.

Membership
CUGH now accepts both individuals and institutions as members. To learn about CUGH membership, please visit CUGH.org/join or contact membership@cugh.org.
UMCCTS-Voyager Therapeutics Special Pilot Project Program 2015

Call for Letters of Intent

The University of Massachusetts Center for Clinical and Translational Science (UMCCTS), in collaboration with Voyager Therapeutics, is pleased to announce a call for letters of intent for a special round of Pilot Project Programs focused on understanding and optimizing recombinant adeno-associated viral (rAAV) vectors for therapeutic use.

Voyager Therapeutics is developing gene therapies for fatal and debilitating diseases of the central nervous system (CNS). Voyager’s current lead programs include Parkinson’s disease, Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS), Friedreich’s ataxia, Huntington’s disease, and additional indications. Voyager is committed to advancing the field of AAV gene therapy by innovating and investing in areas such as vector optimization and engineering, and dosing techniques, as well as process development and production.

Letters of intent are due on or before, Friday, November 13, 2015

Click here for complete details and information available on the UMCCTS website.
The UMASS-Chemical Screening Initiative

Call for Proposals

Purpose of the Program

The UMASS-Chemical Screening Initiative (UMASS-CSI) provides investigators access to experienced professional and state-of-the-art technological resources at the Small Molecule Screening Facility (SMSF) for the discovery of exceptional chemical probes, potential diagnostic and therapeutic candidates of high-impact, as well as research tools. The program is funded by the UMass Office of the President’s Science and Technology Fund and the UMass Center for Clinical and Translational Science.

Executive Summary

- To permit the discovery of high-impact chemical compounds with therapeutic benefits in the academic setting
- To provide drug screening and development support to 10 meritorious projects from across the UMass system
- Facilitate external funding
- Facilitate industry-academia collaborations by demonstrating ‘drug-ability’ of biological targets
- Generate intellectual property for UMass

Objective of this Call for Proposals

The objective of this announcement is to invite applicants with a well-developed assay used in basic research and therapeutic development programs suitable for HTS to submit the assay for consideration by the UMASS-CSI to identify hits and probes from the SMSF compound library.

Five, Tier 1 projects encompassing pilot experiments would be awarded $7,250 each for screening any library of choice, up to a total of 5,000 compounds (e.g., a partial diversity set and/or a combination of the LOPAC and international drug collection to name a few).

Five, Tier 2 projects would involve comprehensive screening of the entire 58,000 compound library. These five Tier 2 projects would be awarded $22,500 each.
In both cases, the awards would cover all costs involved. These awards would cover not only assay development and high throughput screening costs but also secondary and counter screening, hit validation, compound picking, and consultation with medicinal chemists at UMass Amherst (Dr. Sergey Savinov) and the Structure-based Drug Design core at UMASS Medical for further developing these compounds into potential therapeutics.

Sangram S. Parelkar, PhD, who is the manager of the SMSF and has broad expertise in drug discovery and development, would be responsible for assay development and all aspects of screening. Paul Thompson, PhD, the SMSF Core Director, will also provide input into assay design and compound prioritization.

Please direct any questions to Drs. Thompson and/or Parelkar.

**Key Dates:**

- Call open: 09/15/2015
- UMASS-CSI team available for questions and project mentoring from 09/15/2015
- **Proposal Deadline:** Thursday, October 15, 2015 at 5:00 pm EST
- Awards announced on or about 11/30/2015

[Click here](#) for complete details that are available on the UMCCTTS website.
Pfizer’s Centers for Therapeutic Innovation

Call for Proposals for: Biotherapeutic Targets and Small-Molecule Accelerator

Pfizer’s Center’s for Innovative Therapeutic Innovation (CTI) call for proposals will include 3 opportunities:

- Large molecule therapeutics
- Small molecule therapeutics
- A new focused program called the CTI Small Molecule Accelerator (SMA)

Pre-Proposal Deadline: Friday, October 16, 2015

If interested in applying for this funding opportunity, the UMass Center for Clinical and Translational Science has posted the Call for Proposals on our website.

Click here for complete information.

All researchers and clinicians whose work meets these criteria are invited to apply. Please submit pre-proposals to Nate Hafer (nathaniel.hafer@umassmed.edu) by October 16, 2015.

For more information, please contact Venkat Reddy (Venkateshwar.Reddy@pfizer.com) or Nate Hafer (Nathaniel.Hafer@umassmed.edu)
Alliance for Cancer Gene Therapy (ACGT) is pleased to announce its **2015 Investigator's Award in Clinical Translation of Cell and Gene Therapy for Sarcoma**.

**For complete information** please go to: [http://www.acgtfoundation.org/grants-and-research/research-grants/](http://www.acgtfoundation.org/grants-and-research/research-grants/)

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**The Doris Duke Charitable Foundation Announces 2016 Clinical Scientist Development Award Competition**

Pre-proposals are being sought from junior physician-scientist faculty conducting clinical research in any disease area. It is recommended that applicants have significant research experience and strong publication records consistent with the rank of assistant professor.

The Clinical Scientist Development Award does not require institutional nomination. This competition employs a two-stage process.

Pre-proposals will be reviewed and up to 50 applicants will be invited to submit a full proposal.

*In keeping with the wishes expressed by Doris Duke’s will, experiments that use animal or primary tissue derived from animals will not be supported by this program.*
For complete details, please visit the Clinical Scientist Development Award web page.

Application Deadlines:
Pre-Proposals Due: October 30, 2015
Invitation to Submit Full Proposal: December 22, 2015
Full Proposals Due: February 23, 2016
Award Start Date: July 1, 2016

2016 Pilot Grant Application Open

The Center for the Promotion of Health in the New England Workplace (CPH-NEW) Pilot Grants Program awards researchers small grants of up to $11,000 each to conduct preliminary studies or demonstration projects.

Projects must relate to the CDC National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health “Total Worker Health” mission - the integration of occupational safety and health with workplace health promotion to advance health, safety and well-being of workers.

Investigators eligible for pilot project support include:

- Graduate students at accredited academic institutions
- Post-doctoral trainees, including physicians and nurses and those in medical residency programs
- Faculty members, visiting scholars, and research staff at accredited academic institutions
- Other individuals from community or non-academic institutions who have a demonstrated interest and research capability in relevant fields

Visit the CPH-NEW Pilot Grant Program website.

Pilot Grant Deadlines

- The letter of intent is due by October 30, 2015.
- The full application is due by January 8, 2016 (by invitation only).

Be Inspired By Past Projects

Learn about 2015 projects.
Learn about 2014 projects.
Learn about 2013 projects.
Learn about 2012 projects.

Winning Strategies Webinar

Listen to Dr. Stephanie Lemon's webinar, "Winning Strategies for CPH-NEW Pilot Grants." Successful grant writer and Associate Professor at UMass Medical School, Lemon shares her grant writing tips and insights into the Pilot Grant Program.
Grand Challenges Explorations
New Interventions for Global Health: Vaccine Manufacturing
Grand Challenges Africa

The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation is inviting applications that address specific challenges defined in the grant programs below. For details and application instructions, please visit the new Grand Challenges website. Please note that descriptions of the challenges will soon be available on the website in Chinese, French, Portuguese and Spanish.

1) Grand Challenges Explorations is seeking innovative global health and development solutions and is now accepting proposals for its latest application round. Applicants can be at any experience level; in any discipline; and from any organization, including colleges and universities, government laboratories, research institutions, non-profit organizations, and for-profit companies. Initial grants will be US $100,000 each, and projects showing promise will have the opportunity to receive additional funding of up to US $1 million.

Proposals are being accepted online until **November 11, 2015** for the following challenges:

- **Novel Approaches to Characterizing and Tracking the Global Burden of Antimicrobial Resistance**
- **Explore New Solutions in Global Health Priority Areas**
- **Addressing Newborn and Infant Gut Health Through Bacteriophage-Mediated Microbiome Engineering**
- **Explore New Ways to Measure Delivery and Use of Digital Financial Services Data**

2) New Interventions for Global Health: Vaccine Manufacturing. This challenge focuses on innovations in vaccine manufacturing platforms designed to lower production cost for vaccines that target diseases of great global burden and that are among the most costly to produce with current technologies.

Letters of Intent will be accepted until **November 5, 2015**. Read more about this grant opportunity [here](#).

3) In addition, the African Academy of Sciences and the New Partnership for African Development have launched Grand Challenges Africa in Nairobi, Kenya. This program joins others within the Grand Challenges family of grant programs supported by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and its partners. Grand Challenges Africa will build on the global success of Grand Challenges programs in India, Brazil, and South Africa, as well as the strong base of Africa Grand Challenges grantees already funded by the Bill &
Melinda Gates Foundation, Grand Challenges Canada, and USAID. For more information please visit AAS.

We look forward to receiving innovative ideas from around the world and from all disciplines. If you have a great idea, please apply. If you know someone else who may have a great idea, please forward this message.

Furthermore, as a forum for sharing ideas, pursuing new opportunities and keeping abreast of new developments in the field of global health, The Gates Foundation together with Grand Challenges Canada has set-up a LinkedIn group. All you need to join is a free LinkedIn account - go to Global Health Innovations and click "Join"

Thank you for your commitment to solving the world’s greatest health and development challenges.

The Grand Challenges Team
Indo-US Research and Teaching Professorships

Apply Today!!

Sponsored by the Indo-US Science & Technology Forum and managed by the American Society for Microbiology, this program offers two professorships with the intent to foster collaboration and scientific exchange between the United States and India.

**Teaching Professorships** provide microbiologists in India and the United States with an opportunity to visit institutions in the other country to teach an interactive short course on a topic in any of the microbiological disciplines.

**Research Professorships** provide support to microbiologists in India and the United States to conduct a novel research project in partnership with colleague at a research facility in the other country.

Applications should be submitted jointly by the prospective visiting professor and host.

**Funding:** $5,000 per grant.

**Application Deadline:** December 15, 2015

For more information and to apply visit: [www.asm.org/indo-us](http://www.asm.org/indo-us)

**Questions? Please contact ASM at:** international@asmusa.org

Or the IUSSTF at: strikha@indousstf.org
UMass Center for Clinical and Translational Science
362 Plantation Street, Ambulatory Care Center, 7th Floor
Worcester, MA 01605-0002

Website: http://www.umassmed.edu/CCTS
Email: ccts@umassmed.edu
Contact us: http://www.umassmed.edu/ccts/footer/contact-us/
Sign-up for Membership: http://www.umassmed.edu/ccts/footer/membership/

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