



### **Pfizer CTI Call for Pre-proposals Open**

The application for CTI support is now [open](#). Pre-proposals (3-5 pages max) are due **October 14, 2011**. Please email your proposal to Nate Hafer, Director of Operations, UMass Center for Clinical & Translational Science at: [Nathaniel.Hafer@umassmed.edu](mailto:Nathaniel.Hafer@umassmed.edu).

The CTI program is a collaboration between Pfizer and UMass investigators to develop protein therapeutics (e.g., monoclonal antibodies, antibody variants, recombinant proteins, Fc-fusion, pegylated proteins, antibody and protein conjugates, bispecific antibodies and peptides) and take them through successful proof-of-mechanism studies in humans (generally phase I clinical trials). All researchers, clinicians and post-docs may apply. A 6-member Joint Steering Committee (JSC), with equal representation from UMass and Pfizer will select applicants who will be invited to submit a full proposal written in collaboration with Pfizer scientists. For more program details, visit <https://cti.ideareach.com> and sign up for a secure log-in. Questions, contact Nate Hafer, by email or at 508-856-2511.

### **16th Annual Basic Science Research Retreat at Hoagland Pincus October 4-5, 2011**

The program begins October 4<sup>th</sup> with registration from 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM in the main lobby of the Hoagland Pincus Conference Center (get directions by [clicking here](#)), with the basic scientific program to follow. Dinner will be held from 5:00- 8:00 PM. To view the complete program, [click here](#).

### **Applications due Oct 3 for National Community Partner Forum on Community-Engaged Health Disparities Research, Dec 6-7, 2011 in Boston**

The planning committee for "Achieving the Promise of Community-Engaged Health Disparities Research: A National Community Partner Forum" invites community partners in the U.S. involved in community-engaged research to apply to participate in the forum. The forum will be held Dec 6-7 in Boston. Applicants will be notified by Nov 1. Registration for all invitees is free of charge, supported by a grant from the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities. For more details, check *What's New* at [Community Partner Forum](#).

### **The Community Engagement Core of the UMass CCTS Selects Second Group of Pilot Grants**

Eighteen proposals were submitted for review, with funding awarded to the following three:

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**Nicole Champagne, EdD**; Department of Community Health and Sustainability  
UMass Lowell and the **Massachusetts Coalition of Occupational Safety and Health (MassCOSH)**  
Project Title: **Obesity and working conditions in low income workers**

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**Lori Keough, PhD, MSN, RN**; Department of Community Health Nursing  
UMass Dartmouth and the **Greater Fall River Partners for a Healthier Community**  
Project Title: **Pilot study of parental views of school roles in children's health**

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**Lee Hargraves, PhD**; Department of Family Medicine and Community Health  
UMass Worcester and the **Central Massachusetts Area Health Education Center, Inc.**  
Project Title: **Community health workers as ad hoc interpreters**

### **UMCCTS Members Gain Access to UMass Amherst Libraries**

UMass faculty who are members of the [UMass Center for Clinical and Translational Science](#) (UMCCTS) are now eligible to access electronic resources at the UMass Amherst Libraries. To activate your account, please complete the [NENS Application Form](#). Appropriate fields (sponsor information, NENS Category, and expiration date) have been completed for you. Enter your personal and contact information on page one. Fax or email the completed two page form to: Jan Higgins at fax # 413-545-6873 or at [jhiggins@library.umass.edu](mailto:jhiggins@library.umass.edu). You will be notified when your account has been activated. If you have questions or need assistance, please contact Jane Fama at [jane.fama@umassmed.edu](mailto:jane.fama@umassmed.edu) or 508-856-2099.

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**Register Early** *Community Health & Research: Making the Connections Research Symposium*

**When:** November 4, 2011, 8:30 am – 3:30 pm

**Where:** Hoagland Pincus Conference Center, 222 Maple Avenue, Shrewsbury

This inaugural symposium, sponsored by the Community Engagement Core of the UMass CCTS will focus on the interrelationships between community health centers and community engaged research and feature:

- Keynote Address by State Senator Harriette L. Chandler
- Community Health Center Leadership Panel
- Keys to Successful Research Partnerships: The Lawrence Experience
- Posters & Networking for Researchers & Community Partners

To register or submit a poster, [click here](#).

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**FDA Regulatory Training Opportunity for CTSA Clinical Investigators**

**When:** November 7 & 8<sup>th</sup>, 2011, 8:00 am – 5:00 pm, November 9<sup>th</sup>, 8:00 am – 3:00 pm

**Where:** The National Labor College, 10000 New Hampshire Avenue, Silver Spring, Maryland 20903

The third annual FDA Clinical Investigator Training Course, co-sponsored by the Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) Office of Critical Path Programs and the Clinical Trials Transformation Initiative (CTTI), is now open for registration. This intensive, three-day course will enable clinical investigators to gain a greater appreciation of the scientific, ethical, and regulatory issues relating to clinical trial data that may be submitted to regulatory bodies. Attendees will hear directly from FDA's nationally renowned experts on issues critical to successful clinical research.

Topics include the design, conduct, and analysis of clinical trials; regulatory considerations essential for clinical research; the role of the DSMB and IRB in clinical studies; preclinical and pharmacological issues in clinical studies; safety assessment during clinical trials; inclusion of special populations such as pregnant women in clinical studies; and the role of personalized medicine in the future of medical product development. Course Fee: US\$ 400.00 CME Hours: 19.75 There are currently 60 slots still available to CTSA investigators who are interested. Register at:

<https://www.trialstransformation.org/fda-clinical-investigator-training-course>

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**NIH Director's Transformative Research Awards RFA Announced**

The NIH Director's Transformative Research Awards initiative provides support for collaborative investigative teams or individual scientists who propose transformative research projects, which, if successful, would have a major impact in a broad area of biomedical or behavioral research. To be considered transformative, projects must have the potential to create or overturn fundamental scientific paradigms through the use of novel approaches or to lead to major improvements in health through the development of highly innovative therapies, diagnostic tools, or preventive strategies. Consistent with this focus, applications supported under the Transformative Research Awards initiative will reflect ideas substantially different from mainstream concepts. Letters of Intent are due **December 12, 2011** with final applications due **January 12, 2012**. Details available here <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-RM-11-006.html>

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