



CENTER FOR CLINICAL AND TRANSLATIONAL SCIENCE

October 2014 Newsletter

University of Massachusetts Center for Clinical and Translational Science

NEWS:

UMass Amherst's new Founding Director of Institute for Applied Life Sciences Peter H. Reinhart, PhD



The University of Amherst has hired veteran biopharmaceutical executive and researcher, Peter H. Reinhart, to be the founding director of the Institute for Applied Life Sciences (IALS). The institute was created in 2013 with \$150 million in capital funding from the Massachusetts Life Sciences Center (MLSC) and additional contributions from the university to accelerate life science research and advance collaboration with industry.

Dr. Reinhart comes to the university from Alzeon, a Lexington, MA company where he most recently was the head of corporate development and new products for the biotechnology company that is focused on brain health, memory and aging and development of treatments for Alzheimer's disease and other neurodegenerative disorders. Prior to that, he was Chief Scientific Officer and then president at Proteostasis Therapeutics, and head of neurodegeneration at Wyeth/Pfizer. He has also been an adjunct associate professor of neuroscience at the Duke University Medical Center for the past decade and was a tenured professor at the center for nearly 13 years prior to that.

To read the complete article, please go to: <http://www.umass.edu/newsoffice/article/umass-amherst-hires-peter-h-reinhart>

UMMS "R-Club"

Basic Elements and Process for a Successful Grant Application



Program Leader
Beth McCormick, PhD



Program Leader
Robert J. Goldberg, PhD

On behalf of Program Leaders, Drs. Beth McCormick and Robert Goldberg, we are pleased to announce the formation of a new **K to R/Getting to R Club at UMMS**. This seminar/working group is available for all current and past K awardees and junior faculty at the institution who are contemplating the submission of an R type grant (e.g., R01, R03, R21) to the NIH during the coming academic year.

This course will meet on a regular monthly basis, beginning on October 15, 2014 and will run through mid-July. We will discuss all the basic elements of a grant application and will conduct a series of mock grant reviews during the year so that applicants will obtain a better appreciation for the peer review process and what makes for a successful grant application. This working group is intended to enhance, and not replace, mentoring by peers and senior faculty. Each of the monthly sessions will be conducted in an interactive format

so that attendees can ask questions of each other and the course leaders to facilitate their proposal development.

All sessions will convene promptly at 12:30 pm. The location for all sessions is at the UMMS, **Albert Sherman Center, AS6.2072 conference room (6th floor)**. Attendees will be strongly encouraged to develop proposals suitable for funding so there will be a considerable amount of writing, rewriting, and thoughtful discussion that will take place.

Interested? Register now for the R-Club Seminar at: <http://www.umassmed.edu/ccts/education/r-club/>

Questions? Please contact either, Robert.Golberg@umassmed.edu or Beth.McCormick@umassmed.edu

Research Career & Writing Group ("K-Award Club")

The Research Career Award Writing Group ("K-Award Club" writing group), established in 2007, is co-lead by Drs. Doug Ziedonis and Sherry Pagoto. Most faculty who participate and apply for a research career award have been very successful in getting funded (>80% success). The Group meets monthly to provide information and feedback on academic career development and on preparing a Research Career Award application (NIH K Awards, VA Research Career Awards, CTSA K12 grants, etc.).



Program Leader
Sherry L. Pagoto, PhD



Program Leader
Douglas Ziedonis, MD, MPH

Faculty will receive:

- Feedback on CV development
- Help on preparing NIH biosketches
- Support on creating yearly Career Development Plans
- Individualized help on developing their own career goals and program of research
- Support with writing the career development grant application
- Guidance on selecting and working with their primary and secondary mentors (if needed)

Of note, Mock Board Review sessions and review of prior grant applications / NIH review committee feedback are demonstrated for the group. In addition to Drs. Ziedonis and Pagoto, other outstanding senior mentors attend the meeting and provide additional information and perspectives, including Dr. Rob Milner from the UMMS Office of Faculty Affairs (OFA) who assures a close partnership with the OFA in providing additional supplementary information.

Interested in joining? To become a member, please contact Ms. Denise Barrett, Executive Assistant to Dr. Ziedonis, denise.barrett@umassmemorial.org

Complete Schedule: <http://www.umassmed.edu/ccts/education/research-career--writing-group-k-club/>

NCATS Tox21 Data Challenge 2014

The Challenge:

The 2014 Tox21 (<http://www.ncats.nih.gov/research/reengineering/tox21/tox21.html>) data challenge is designed to help scientists understand the potential of the chemicals and compounds being tested through the Toxicology in the 21st Century initiative to disrupt biological pathways in ways that may result in toxic effects.

The goal of the challenge is to “crowdsource” data analysis by independent researchers to reveal how well they can predict compounds’ interference in biochemical pathways using only chemical structure data. The computational models produced from the Challenge could become decision-making tools for government agencies in determining which environmental chemicals and drugs are of the greatest potential concern to human health.

All Challenge winners will receive the opportunity to submit a paper for publication in a special thematic issue of *Frontiers in Environmental Science* and recognition on the NCATS website and via social media.

Key Dates:

- November 14, 2014 Registration and submission deadline
- January 12, 2015 Winners announced

Full details and to register: <https://tripod.nih.gov/tox21/challenge/>

DID YOU KNOW?

UMCCTS eScholarship@UMMS

eScholarship@UMMS is a digital repository offering worldwide access to the research and scholarly work of the University of Massachusetts Medical School community. The goal is to bring together the University’s scholarly output, in full text whenever possible in order to enhance its visibility and accessibility. This repository serves as an archive to collect, showcase, and preserve scholarly publications authored by UMass faculty, researchers, staff, and students. It contains journal articles, posters presentations, dissertations, student projects, reports, and more. Each document in eScholarship@UMMS is assigned a long-term, stable link. The archive is optimized for searching by Google and Google Scholar, which means that documents get wide exposure. eScholarship@UMMS is a service of the UMMS Lamar Souter Library.

Please check out the UMass Center for Clinical and Translational Science’s eScholarship@UMMS webpage at: <http://escholarship.umassmed.edu/umccts/> . We have listed CTSA grant supported publications and our annual Retreat information for you to peruse.

The link to our UMCCTS eScholarship@UMMS is also located on our webpage footer, <http://www.umassmed.edu/CCTS>

UMCCTS Benefits of Membership

If you are not already signed-up as a member for the UMass Center for Clinical and Translational Science, please do so at: <http://www.umassmed.edu/CCTS/CCTS-Sign-up-for-Membership/> The membership link is also located in the footer section of our website, <http://www.umassmed.edu/CCTS>

Membership is *free* and has many benefits, such as:

- UMass faculty can access UMass Worcester research cores at the on-campus academic rate. Non-UMass academic members can access UMass Worcester research cores at the off-campus academic rate. Industry partners pay industry rates.
- UMass faculty are eligible to access electronic resources at the UMass Worcester and Amherst Libraries.
- UMass members are eligible to apply for pilot award funding.
- Members receive notification via email of all UMCCTS funding opportunities, events, seminars, and monthly newsletters.

If you have any questions about membership and its benefits, please email UMCCTS at: ccts@umassmed.edu

EVENTS:

UMMS Bioinformatics Core, Program in Bioinformatics and Integrative Biology, and the Diabetes Center of Excellence invite you to attend...

Informal Discussion
“HIGH-THROUGHPUT SINGLE CELL RNA-SEQ AND CELL POPULATION SCREENING”

Magali Soumillon, PhD
Research Scientist
Broad Technology Lab, Broad Institute

Tuesday, October 21, 2014
11:00 AM
Albert Sherman Center
Room AS4.2072 (4th Floor Conference Room)
University of Massachusetts Medical School

Hosts: Dale Greiner, PhD and Manuel Garber, PhD

5th EU-US eHealth Marketplace and Conference
Transforming Care and Accelerating Economies

October 21-22, 2014
Boston, MA

To Register and complete Schedule at: <https://www.b2match.eu/eu-us-ehealth-marketplace-2014/pages/agenda>

UMCCTS “So you think you have a drug” Clinical Research Seminar Series Inaugural Event

“SO YOU THINK YOU HAVE A DRUG YOU WANT TO DEVELOP”

Mark S. Klempner, MD
Professor of Medicine
Executive Vice Chancellor,
MassBiologics of UMMS

Thursday, October 30, 2014
3:00 – 4:00 pm
Albert Sherman Center
Conference Room AS7.2072 (7th floor)
University of MA Medical School

Co-sponsored by the UMass Center for Clinical and Translational Science, MassDrugs, and MassBiologics of UMMS

http://www.umassmed.edu/Global/Center%20for%20Clinical%20Translational%20Science/Files/Events/2014%20Events/Klempner_poster.pdf

UMMS 19th Annual Basic Research /
Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences Retreat

Monday, November 3 – Tuesday, November 4, 2014
at the

University of Massachusetts Amherst Conference Center
Amherst, MA

To Register: <http://www.umassmed.edu/research/annualretreat/>

Questions? Joan.Lynch@umassmed.edu or 508-856-1572

UMass Lowell Massachusetts Medical Device Development Center (M2D2)

“FOUNDATIONS FOR SUCCESS: WHAT TO THINK ABOUT NOW TO PREPARE FOR THE FUTURE”
Panel Presentation and Discussion

Attorneys from Sheehan, Phinney Bass and Green PA will present a range of legal and financial strategies for promoting the development and launch of your medical device start-up.

Thursday, November 6, 2014
6:00 pm – 8:00 pm
M2D2
600 Suffolk Street, 2nd Floor
Lowell, MA 01854

Registration fee includes pizza, beer & wine:

<https://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/eventReg?oeidk=a07e9xxlz6q610b5ee7&oseq=&c=&ch=>

UMass Center for Clinical and Translational Science
Community Engagement and Research Symposium

“BUILDING ON PARTNERSHIP STRENGTHS TO IMPROVE HEALTH IN COMMUNITIES”

Friday, November 7, 2014
8:00 am – 5:00 pm
Albert Sherman Center
University of MA Medical School

Goal of the Symposium: To build our shared capacity to address health issues in communities throughout Massachusetts by creating opportunities for people to:

- Meet each other
- Learn more about each other’s work and interests
- Make connections and plan for future collaborative work

Audience: Community leaders, faculty and staff from all 5 UMass campuses and other organizations and institutions interested in partnered research.

To Register (*free*) for the Community Engagement and Research Symposium:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1Wsn4LAefK7-dpAzKkP4I2fkkdYGJL0_-O0vq2-Syuwo/viewform?c=0&w=1

Deadline to register is October 24, 2014

Questions? Please contact Amy Borg by email at communityengagement@umassmed.edu or phone at 508-856-4685.

UMass Center for Clinical and Translational Science
Seminar Series 2014-2015 Schedule

12:00-1:00 pm (lunch served)

2015		
Date:	Presenter:	Title:
Tuesday, January 27	"TBA"	
Wednesday, February 25		
Tuesday, March 24		
Thursday, April 23	Hong Yu, PhD	
Wednesday, May 27		

If you are interested in presenting at one of our upcoming UMCCTS Seminars, please contact, Dr. Nate Hafer, Director of Operations, UMCCTS, at nathaniel.hafer@umassmed.edu

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES:



**CENTER FOR CLINICAL AND
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UMass Center for Clinical and Translational Science and Cubist Pharmaceuticals, Inc. Developmental Therapeutics Awards 2014

To: **All UMass Worcester Faculty and Cubist Employees**

From: Katherine Luzuriaga, MD
Director and PI, UMCCTS

Ronnie Farquhar, PhD
Senior Vice President, Discovery and Pharmaceutical Research, Cubist Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

The UMCCTS, in collaboration with Cubist Pharmaceuticals, Inc., is announcing a special round of the Pilot Project Program focused on understanding aspects of host-pathogen relationships that may lead to the development of novel measures to prevent or manage infectious diseases.

In this inaugural pilot program between UMCCTS and Cubist, a total of \$350,000 is available to fund pilot projects (n = 2-4). Individual project awards of up to \$120,000 over two years are allowable. Awards are expected to be made on a competitive basis by a scientific review committee to enable teams of joint investigators to accelerate the translation of innovative, cutting-edge research on host-pathogen interactions related to infectious diseases.

Application Deadline: Friday, October 24, 2014, 5:00 pm (EST) to: Nathaniel.Hafer@umassmed.edu

Complete instructions and eligibility: <http://www.umassmed.edu/CCTS/Funding/>



**CENTER FOR CLINICAL AND
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UMass Center for Clinical and Translational Science and Pfizer's Center for Therapeutic Innovation (CTI) 2014

Request for Translational Proposals: Small-Molecule Targets

CTI: An innovative Pfizer program that partners with leading academic medical centers and foundations nationwide to accelerate the translation of novel targets to the clinic. CTI's goal is to identify new compounds and accelerate research and drug development from validated target to proof-of-mechanism in the clinic.

A partnership with CTI includes collaborative use of Pfizer's proprietary antibody drug discovery technologies and compound library, broad publishing rights and significant financial awards in the form of milestone and royalty payments for successful programs.

Application Deadline: Friday, October 31, 2014, 5:00 pm (EST) to: Nathaniel.Hafer@umassmed.edu

Complete instructions and eligibility: <http://www.umassmed.edu/CCTS/Funding>



**CENTER FOR CLINICAL AND
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MassBiologics

Medicine for Better Lives

**UMCCTS and MassBiologics of UMMS
Next Hundred Million Pilot Projects (NHMPP) 2014
Funding Opportunity**

The UMCCTS and MassBiologics of UMMS **Next Hundred Million Pilot Projects (NHMPP)** serves as a dedicated pool of funding to spur innovative collaborations between MassBiologics of UMMS and investigators across the UMass system with the goal of enhancing the translation of discoveries for clinical use. Projects must include at least one investigator from MassBiologics of UMMS and a faculty investigator from at least one UMass campus.

Application Deadline: Friday, October 31, 2014, 5:00 pm (EST) to: ccts@umassmed.edu

Complete instructions and eligibility: <http://www.umassmed.edu/CCTS/Funding>

**UMCCTS Small Conference Grants
Funding Opportunity**

Introduction

The University of Massachusetts Center for Clinical & Translational Science (UMCCTS) is pleased to announce a funding call for **Small Conference Grants**. This funding opportunity is designed to leverage the convening capacity of the UMCCTS to create new, multidisciplinary teams to address a pressing health need. For the purpose of this award, a conference is defined as a symposium, educational program, seminar, workshop, or any other organized and formal meeting.

Purpose

The UMCCTS supports projects that are inter-campus in orientation and directed toward life sciences projects related to clinical and translational research. This fund serves to spur inter-disciplinary collaboration and strengthen the University's research portfolio in clinical and translational research. By providing seed funding to outstanding faculty members, this fund facilitates the development of faculty-to-faculty networks within the University system, thereby leveraging the considerable expertise and resources that exist on the individual campuses. It is assumed that successful conferences will serve as a springboard to attract additional funding from extramural sources.

All UMass faculty (Amherst, Boston, Dartmouth, Lowell, Worcester) with an interest in clinical and translational science may apply. **Project awards of up to \$1,000 can be requested.**

Proposals will be accepted on a "rolling basis" (no due date). Investigators will be notified of award approximately 2-3 weeks post submission.

Complete details, criteria to apply, and the application process are available at the UMCCTS website:
<http://www.umassmed.edu/ccts/funding/>

NIH K08 on Aging Funding Opportunity

The NIH, Department of Health and Human Services announces a funding opportunity, **Paul B. Beeson Clinical Scientist Development Award in Aging (K08)**

RFA-AG-15-016 - <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-AG-15-016.html>

Letter of Intent Due: October 7, 2014

Application Due: November 7, 2014

This funding opportunity encourages and assists the development of future leaders in the field of aging by supporting clinically trained (primarily physicians) faculty members early in their careers to gain additional research training and to establish independent programs in aging research.

The John A. Hartford Foundation (<http://www.jhartfound.org/>) and the American Federation for Aging Research (<http://www.afar.org/>) are interested in independently funding applications submitted under this initiative.

See more at: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-AG-15-016.html#sthash.SnMPecr1.dpuf>



Doris Duke Charitable Foundation Announces 2015 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.

Pre-Proposals Due: October 31, 2014
Invitation to Submit a Full Proposal: December 22, 2014
Full Proposals Due: February 24, 2015
Award Start-Date: July 1, 2015

Complete details available at: http://www.ddcf.org/Programs/Medical-Research/Goals-and-Strategies/Build-the-Clinical-Research-Career-Ladder/Clinical-Scientist-Development-Award/?utm_source=DDCF+Announcement&utm_campaign=7160d373ac-CSDA_2015_Competition_Announcement_9_24_2014&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_56277ef78d-7160d373ac-22272493

Please remember to cite the CTSA Grant # UL1TR000161 in all supported journal publications.
<http://www.umassmed.edu/CCTS/NIH-Citation-Requirements/>

Visit our website for all the latest news, funding announcements, seminars, educational training, sign-up for membership, etc., <http://www.umassmed.edu/CCTS>