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UMCCTS Newsletter, February 2019

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February 2019 Newsletter

FUNDING

- CCTS SPARK Program (Small Pilot and Research Knowledge)
- CCTS Small Conference Grants
- ~ NEW: UMASS Lowell and M2D2 2019 \$200k Challenge (Register by 02.18.19)
- Mentored Career Development (KL2) Award RFA LOIs Due 02.15.2019
- The CD2H \$100k Idea Competition (Call for Proposals) Due 02.15.2019
- Charles A. King Trust Postdoctoral Research Fellowship Program
- CIMIT (Consortia for Improving Medicine with Innovation & Technology) Funding
- ~ DRIVe's EZ-BAA
- Growing Gene & Cell Therapy RFA Winter 2019: Invited Full Applications Due 03.22.2019
- ~ Immuno-Oncology Translation Network (IOTN): Three Funding Opportunities
- MCCISS K12 Support and Training
- ~ NCATS Funding
- ~ NEW: NIH Point-of Care Technology (POCTRN) Expressions of Interest Due 03.01.2019
- NEW: CureAccelerator Live! Funding Opportunities Proposals Due 02.28.2019

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/

NEW: UMASS LOWELL / M2D2 2019 \$200K CHALLENGE: The \$200k Challenge is an annual start-up competition hosted by M2D2 focused on identifying and reward disruptive companies in the medical technology and biotechnology industries. Innovations that address the full range of medical device challenges are welcome to apply. This year there is a particular interest in ideas that can benefit from our association with the BARDA DRIVe initiative. Up to 20 finalists will be chosen to get their innovation in

MENTORED CAREER DEVELOPMENT (KL2) AWARD REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS: A major goal of the University of Massachusetts Center for Clinical and Translational Science (UMCCTS) is to develop and support the next generation of leaders in clinical and translational research. Success in today's complex and competitive environment requires training that is truly transdisciplinary in nature, encompassing the full spectrum of translational research from discovery through pre-clinical development and first-in-human studies to implementation science with additional continuous feedback to basic science research. The KL2 Training Program combines coursework, seminars, and mentored research.

Letters of Intent are due by **February 15, 2019, 5:00pm EST**. Submit as single .DOC or .PDF with supporting documentation. Email to CCTS@umassmed.edu

KL2 PROGRAM / PROPOSAL Questions	GRANT PREPARATION / SUBMISSION Questions
Contact: KL2 Program Leaders	Contact:
Dr. John Keaney (john.keaney@umassmed.edu)	Dr. Nathaniel Hafer (<u>nathaniel.hafer@umassmed.edu</u>)
Dr. Jeroan Allison (jeroan.allison@umassmed.edu)	
Dr. Milagros C. Rosal (milagros.rosal@umassmed.edu)	
Dr. Javier Irazoqui (<u>Javier.irazoqui@umassmed.edu</u>)	

For full information, visit: http://www.umassmed.edu/ccts/education/KL2-training-program/

CD2H \$100K IDEA COMPETITION: The CTSA Program's National Center for Data to Health (CD2H) is excited to announce the launch of the CD2H Idea Competition: an opportunity to turn your scientific question into a DREAM Challenge to be tackled by teams around the world. If selected, your idea will receive up to a \$100,000 subcontract to run the DREAM Challenge in collaboration with the CD2H. **Deadline to submit initial proposal is February 15, 2019 (Friday)**. Initial 1-to-2 page proposals must include a letter of support from your CTSA Hub principal investigator. Six semi-finalists will be selected and invited to further develop their proposals on **March 8, 2019**. CD2H will announce the winner and award up to a \$100k subcontract by **May 17, 2019**.

<u>Eligibility</u>: Proposals can be submitted by any researcher, clinician, or staff member affiliated with an institution that has a CTSA Hub with a <u>current</u> UL1 award. Sites that currently receive subcontracts from CD2H are not eligible.

For more information and submission guidelines, click here.

CHARLES A. KING TRUST POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM: Apply NOW for the 2019 Postdoctoral Research Fellowship Program in the Basic Sciences and Clinical/Health Services Research. 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.

Eligibility:

<u>Basic Science</u>: By **September 1, 2019**, applicants must have completed a minimum of three years, but not more than five years, of full-time postdoctoral research. For more information about the Basic Science program, click <u>here</u>.

<u>Clinical/Health Services Research</u>: By **September 1, 2019**, applicants must have no more than five years of employment since completion of residency training or three to five years of postdoctoral employment. For more information about the Clinical/Health Services program, click <u>here</u>.

Application Deadline: March 1, 2019 by 3:00pm EST

Award Amount: Two-year grants from \$104,008 to \$117, 760 total

Funding Period: September 1, 2019 through August 31, 2021

For further information or questions, contact Lindsey Phelan, Grants Office, at LPhelan@hria.org.

CIMIT FUNDING: The Consortia for Improving Medicine with Innovation and Technology, in partnership with TRISH (Translational Research Institute for Space Health at Baylor University) announces eight (8) new solicitation opportunities aimed at protecting and optimizing human health and performance during long-duration space exploration missions. Companies with existing medical products, or those still in development, may be awarded up to \$250k to augment ongoing development efforts. TRISH's funds can be used to advance the development and make a product viable for use in long-duration space flight (e.g. by miniaturizing, reducing power and/or packaging, simplifying use, extending shelf life, etc.) which will also make it a more robust and successful commercial product. This is a rapid response and unique opportunity to send your device to space. **Notification by February 15, 2019**. To learn more, contact Dr. Steve Schachter at CIMIT (sschacht@bidmc.harvard.edu) or click here.

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.

IMMUNO-ONCOLOGY TRANSLATION NETWORK (IOTN): <u>OPPORTUNITY ONE</u> (Cancer

Immunoprevention Research Projects (U01 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)) The NIH has released two new FOAs associated with Beau Biden Cancer Moonshot Initiative intended to accelerate cancer research. Specifically, these FOAs seek to support the creation of a translational science network devoted exclusively to immunotherapy approached to treat and prevent adult cancers. Applications to RFA-CA-19-015 are due by **Friday, February 8, 2019 5pm EST**. To learn more about Cancer Moonshot, click <a href="https://example.com/her

<u>OPPORTUNITY THREE</u> (Immuno-engineering to Improve Immunotherapy (i3) Centers (U54 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)): The purpose of this FOA is to develop immune-engineering to improve immunotherapy (i3) centers, as new components of the IOTN. The i3 centers will be comprised of multi-disciplinary teams focused on developing and employing engineered immunotherapy approached to design more durable, widely accessible, and less toxic immunoprevention and immunotherapy strategies. Applications are due **Monday, February 11, 2019 by 5pm EST**. To learn more, click here.

MCCISS K12 TRAINING GRANTS: The Massachusetts Consortium for Cardiopulmonary Implementation Science Scholars (MCCISS) announces K12 training grants for 2019.

MCCISS Important Dates:

02.25.2019 Full Applications due 04.01.2019 Scholar Selection 09.01.2019 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.

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

NEW: NIH POINT-OF-CARE TECHNOLOGY RESEARCH NETWORK (POCTRN): POCTRN drives the development of point-of-care technologies through collaborative efforts that merge scientific and technological capabilities with clinical need. The goal is to develop technological with clinical applications using a network model that enhances complementary strengths and builds multidisciplinary partnerships. With the recent announcement of a \$7.9 million grant from the NIH, UMMS and M2D@ are poised to establish a new POCTRN site: **Center for Advancing Point-of-Care Technologies (CAPCaT)** in Heart, Lung, Blood, and Sleep Disorders. Apply to CAPCaT now for funding here. Expressions of Interest are **due March 1, 2019**. For more information on POCTRN, click here and here.

NEW: CUREACCELERATOR LIVE! Two Funding Opportunities: (1) Repurposing Research Funding Announcement Funds Available for **Rare Disease** Clinical Repurposing Research Trials. **Up to \$50k funding available for rare disease repurposing clinical trials, proposals due by 02.28.2019**. Eligible submissions can come from North America and Europe. Five finalists to be selected to pitch their repurposing clinical trials at the 2019 Spring/Summer CureAccelerator Live! Event. For more info, click here. Submit proposals here.

(2) Repurposing Research Funding Announcement Funds Available for Developing World Clinical Repurposing Research Trials. **Up to \$50k funding available for any disease that primarily impacts patients in the developing world, proposals due by 02.14.2019**. Eligible submissions can come from research institutions located anywhere in the world, including upper-middle and high-income countries (applicants based in developing countries will be given a higher ranking in the review process). Five finalists will be selected to present at the Live! Event in the Boston area. For more info, click here. Submit proposals here.

EDUCATION

- NEW: HARVARD CATALYST COURSE: Introduction to Translational Medicine April 8-11, 2019
- ~ K CLUB
- ~ PiPSS (Projects in Process Seminar Series) February 7 and February 21, 2019
- ISSR Methodology Workshops (Spring 2019 / multiple dates)

NEW: HARVARD CATALYST COURSE: Introduction to Translational Medicine – a four-day survey course is being offered on **April 8-11, 2019**. This course is an introduction to the principles and practice of T1 translational research utilizing both case studies and a didactic curriculum and will explore the skills necessary to embark on a career in translational research, particularly in the process of bringin an idea from the laboratory to first-in-human trials (called T1 translational research). Eligibility is MD, DMD, PharmD, DNP, PhD, or equivalent with involvement in basic or clinical research. Application deadline is February 27, 2019. To learn more or register, click <u>here</u>.

K CLUB: Meets every **1**st **and 3**rd **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).

February 7th presentations:

- → **Ameer Elaimy, MD/PhD** "Role of Autocrine VEGF Signaling in Breast Cancer Stem Cell Function and Chemotherapy Resistance"
- → Michael Frisoli, MD/PhD "Innate Immune Contributions to Vitiligo"
- → **Katelyn McCann, MD/PhD** "Regulation and Function of IRG1 and Itaconate in the Human Innate Immune Response"
- → **Ankur Sheel, MD/PhD** "Depletion of TRRAP Induces p53-Independent Senescence in Live Cancer by Inducing Mitotic Catastrophe"

February 21st presentations:

- → **Michelle Trivedi, K** "Aligning Stakeholder Agendas in the Refinement of the Asthma Link Protocol: Real World Implementation of School-Supervised Asthma Therapy"
- → Paul Greer, K "Exteroceptive and Interoceptive Chemosensation by MS4A Receptors"
- → **Dominic Gessler, Millennium** "Canavan Disease Gene Therapy: From Mouse to Human to Basic Biology"
- → **Noah Silverstein, MD/PhD** "Epigenetic Inheritance in a Mouse Model of Influenza Infection"

NEW: ISSR METHODOLOGY WORKSHOPS / SPRING 2019: New classes being **offered in Amher**st this spring (see list below). For more information or to register, click <u>here</u>.

- Stata for Beginners: Tuesday February 12 from 10am to 12pm
- Getting Started in NVivo: The Basics (Session 1), Wednesday February 13 from 10am to 12pm
- How to Do Network Analysis: Wednesday February 13 from 12:30 pm to 2:15pm
- Introduction to Questionnaire Design: Thursday February 14 from 2pm to 5pm
- Introduction to SPSS: Monday February 25 from 2pm to 4pm
- Regression Analysis Using Stata: Tuesday February 26 from 10am to 12pm
- Using NVivo Queries to Explore Your Data: Wednesday February 27 from 10am to 12pm
- Introduction to SAS: Data Management: Thursday February 28 from 2pm to 4pm

EVENTS

work.

- ~ UPDATE: 8th Annual UMCCTS Community Engagement and Research Symposium Call for Posters
- ~ NEW: 14th Annual Texas Conference on Health Disparities June 6-7, 2019
- ~ NEW: Cancer Biology Program Research Retreat February 13, 2019 Call for Speakers/Posters
- The Opioid Crisis and the Future of Addiction and Pain Therapeutics: Opportunities, Tools and Technologies, February 7-9, 2019
- ~ NEW: Program in Molecular Medicine Seminar Series: Cholsoon Jang, PhD February 21, 2019
- ~ NEW: TS19 Washington DC March 5-8, 2019
- ~ NEW: Un-Meeting on Rural Health and Health Equity April 8, 2019
- ~ NEW: NIH POCTRN Webinar February 26, 2019 (Speaker: James Stahl)

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

Keynote:

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

Registration opens on <u>January 7, 2019</u>
Visit our website to learn more: https://www.umassmed.edu/ccts/community

Notification Date: The deadline to submit posters has passed. If you did submit a poster and it is accepted, you will receive notification by **February 15, 2019**.

Questions? Email <u>communityengagement@umassmed.edu</u>. For more information, visit <u>www.umassmed.edu/ccts/community</u>

NEW: 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.

NEW: CANCER BIOLOGY PROGRAM RESEARCH RETREAT (Call for Speakers and/or Posters): February 13, 2019 8:30am-5:00pm. Please join us for an all-day research retreat hosted by the UMMS Cancer Biology Program to be held at College of the Holy Cross, Hogan Center Ballroom, 1 College Street,

Worcester MA 01610. Keynote speaker is *Dr. Kornelia Polyak of the Dana Farber Cancer Institute*, along with talks by various UMMS faculty, post-docs and graduate students, and a poster session. **If you are interested in speaking at this event or in presenting a poster, please click here for further information.**

THE OPIOID CRISIS AND THE FUTURE OF ADDICTION AND PAIN THERAPEUTICS: Opportunities, Tools and Technologies: February 7-8, 2019, Kirschstein Auditorium, Natcher Conference Center, NIH Campus, Bethesda MD. Speakers include Nora Volkow, George Koob, Frances Collins, Eric Nestler, Paul Kenny, Garret Stuber, Michael Bruchas, Clifford Woolf, Brigette Kieffer, Peter Kalivas, Ron Dror.

For more information, click <u>here</u>.

NEW: MOLECULAR MEDICINE SPECIAL SEMINAR: Cholsoon Jang, PhD "*Illuminating Nutrient Metabolism with In Vivo Isotope Tracing and Metabolomics.*" Thursday, **February 21, 2019 at 4:00pm** – Molecular Medicine Seminar Room 3rd Floor, Biotech Two. Hosted by Roger J. Davis PhD 508.856.6054.

NEW: TS19 WASHINGTON DC: The premiere translational science meeting of the year will be held in **Washington DC** on **March 5-8, 2019.** Come network and learn from researchers of all skill sets and experience levels across the clinical and translational science spectrum. *To learn more, click here.*

NEW: 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.

NEW: NIH POCTRN WEBINAR February 26, 2019, 2:00pm EST Speaker: James Stahl MD, CM, MPH, Health Researcher, Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center and Massachusetts General Hospital will provide relevant information on *how a Systems Engineering approach to developing disruptive point-of-care technologies can help overcome the many barriers to successful clinical adoption.* To register for this webinar, click here.

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 CTSAs 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 file*d 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.