IN THE NEWS

UMCCTS SUMMER 2022 UNDERGRADUATE INTERNSHIP PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

WHAT'S NEW?

01 News
03 Events
09 Funding
13 Education
CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR UMCCTS SUMMER 2022 UNDERGRADUATE INTERNSHIP PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

On Friday, August 12th, nine UMass undergraduate students were recognized for their summer internship work as part of an inaugural multi-campus collaboration. This internship program was developed to give students from the UMass Amherst School of Public Health & Health Sciences or the UMass Lowell Zuckerberg College of Health Sciences the experience in clinical research, and to provide insight into the rewards of a career as a Clinical Research Professional. A major goal of the University of Massachusetts Center for Clinical and Translational Science (UMCCTS) is to develop a rigorously trained workforce that supports high-quality, innovative, and impactful clinical and translational science.

Interns were each paired with a clinical research team and designated Clinical Research Professional (CRP) mentor to train for 10 weeks on the UMass Chan Medical School campus. Following a week of intensive group-level training in clinical research, privacy, and human subjects protection, interns joined their study teams to engage in hands-on, behind the scenes learning about all phases of the clinical research process. The interns were also treated to weekly panel discussions with UMass faculty and staff, engaging in dialogue about topics such as Implementation Science, Community Engagement, Digital Medicine and Clinical Informatics.

UMCCTS Undergraduate Interns Summer 2022
L-R: Sophia Nosek (Amherst), Nisha Sabnis (Amherst), Leo Gibbons (Amherst), Marita Merheb (Lowell), Meghan Cusick (Amherst), Ben Weitz (Amherst), Danielle MacCormac (Amherst), Kyra Barry (Lowell), not pictured Shruthi Sivasubramanian (Amherst)
Elaine Marieb Center for Nursing & Engineering Innovation  
First Annual Symposium

September 13, 2022  
UMass Amherst, Student Union, Ballroom  
8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Join us for a Center-Supported, Seed Grant Projects Symposium!

Founded in 2021, the Elaine Marieb Center for Nursing and Engineering Innovation brings nurses and engineers together to collaborate and provide healthcare solutions that advance patient care, nursing practice, and medical product development.

Join us for the first annual full day symposium for nurses and engineers to learn about the Center's accomplishments and seed grant projects, nurse-engineer innovations, and to network and exchange ideas.

You'll hear from nurses and engineers who are actively engaged in the process of collaborative medical product innovations, such as the IV Smart Pump Initiative. You'll also learn about the importance of user-centered healthcare innovation and its fundamental role in transforming healthcare.

REGISTER HERE
EVENTS

I-CORPS PROGRAM AT THE UMCCTS
SIGN UP NOW! REGISTRATION CLOSES SEPTEMBER 15TH

This Fall the UMass Center for Clinical and Translational Science is once again offering a short course to help investigators understand the commercial value of their inventions. Known as I-Corps, it’s designed to support the translation of biomedical research by providing early-stage education and strategic guidance to faculty, staff and students during the initial phase of technology development.

Questions? Contact Nate Hafer at 508-856-2511 or Nathaniel.hafer@umassmed.edu

Course starts on September 30, 2022
Mid course check in Fri. Oct 14th
Course finale Fri. Oct 28th

REGISTER HERE
You are invited to a Public Engagement Workshop!

Telling Compelling Data-driven Stories: How to Make Numbers Meaningful, Accessible, and Actionable

Thursday, September 29, 2022
10:00 AM – 11:30 AM EST

Participants will learn key principles of effective data-driven storytelling and practice creating their own compelling narratives through hands-on exercises. Focus will be on what communicators can do to make numerical information meaningful, accessible, and actionable for diverse audiences.

EZRA MARKOWITZ, Ph.D. is an Associate Professor of Environmental Decision-Making in the Dept. of Environmental Conservation at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. His research and teaching focus on the intersection of decision-making, persuasive communication, public engagement with science, and environmental sustainability. He is particularly interested and an expert in the practical application of behavioral science to improve individuals' and communities' decision-making and communications.

Zoom (Registration is Required!)

Click Here to Register
Real-time captioning will be provided

This is the first workshop in a 3-part series on Science Communication. The workshops are related but stand alone. You can join any or all of them, and do not need to have attended earlier sessions to take part fully in a later workshop. Watch for dates and details!
Rigor and Reproducibility Seminar

“Does Science Self-Correct?”

Given jointly by the University of Massachusetts Medical School, Population and Quantitative Health Sciences and UMASS Boston, Gerontology Department and Gerontology Institute

Monday, October 17, 2022
12:00 – 1:00 PM

Presented by: Ivan Oransky, M.D.
Editor-in-Chief, Spectrum Distinguished Writer in Residence, New York University's Arthur Carter Journalism Institute Co-Founder, Retraction Watch Past President, Association of Health Care Journalists

Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android:
https://umassmed.zoom.us/j/96838812715?pwd=bEFwanZZG4xRi93a3BVZlVqUndIUT09
Password: 704923

Ivan Oransky, MD, is co-founder of Retraction Watch, editor in chief of Spectrum, and distinguished writer in residence at New York University's Arthur Carter Journalism Institute. Ivan, a graduate of the NYU School of Medicine, previously was president of the Association of Health Care Journalists and vice president of editorial at Medscape. He has also held editorial leadership positions at MedPage Today, Reuters Health, Scientific American and The Scientist. He is the recipient of the 2015 John P. McGovern Medal for excellence in biomedical communication from the American Medical Writers Association, and in 2017 was awarded an honorary doctorate in civil laws from The University of the South (Sewanee). In 2019, the judges for the John Maddox Prize, which promotes those who stand up for science in the face of hostility, gave him a commendation for his work at Retraction Watch.
The NCATS Assay Guidance Manual (AGM) program is hosting a two-day workshop that will cover a broad range of critical concepts underlying assay development and implementation for high-throughput screening and lead discovery projects. This workshop is designed to disseminate critical information about the implementation of robust assay methods and is particularly relevant for researchers developing molecular probes or clinical candidates. Many of the instructors have 20 to 30 years of experience in the field of drug discovery and will share information not readily found in a classroom or published material outside of the AGM. The workshop also will cover emerging technologies and modalities in drug discovery, including the use of DNA-encoded libraries and 3-D tissue models in drug discovery.
Rigor and Reproducibility Seminar

“Are Predatory Journals Bad Hombres?”

Given jointly by the University of Massachusetts Medical School, Population and Quantitative Health Sciences and UMASS Boston, Gerontology Department and Gerontology Institute

Monday, October 31, 2022
12:00 – 1:00 PM

Presented by: David Moher, PhD, MSc, BA
Senior Scientist, Clinical Epidemiology Program
Ottawa Hospital Research Institute

Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android:
https://umassmed.zoom.us/j/93652990006?pwd=ZU9GWEREajh5TUFsdFVPcGZicVB3dz09
Password: 882650

David Moher is a senior scientist, clinical epidemiology program, Ottawa Hospital Research Institute, where he directs the centre for journalology (i.e., publication science). Dr. Moher is also Professor, School of Epidemiology and Public Health, Faculty of Medicine, University of Ottawa. Dr. Moher holds an MSc in epidemiology and PhD in clinical epidemiology and biostatistics. Dr. Moher is a fellow of the Royal Society of Canada and a fellow of the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences.
FUNDING

TL1 REQUEST FOR APPLICATION (RFA)
Mentored Career Development Opportunity

Applications are due by 5pm ET on September 15, 2022

The UMass Center for Clinical and Translational Science TL1 Training grant (PI: Dr. Kate Lapane) is seeking applicants for our NCATS/NIH-funded pre & post-doctoral fellowship program. Applications are due by 5pm ET on September 15, 2022.

Applicant Eligibility: Applicants must show evidence of high academic performance in the sciences and commitment to a career as an independent researcher.

- Pre-doctoral candidates must first be accepted into a UMass Chan Medical School doctoral program and be willing to complete the required 10-17 credit curriculum.
- Postdoctoral candidates must have received a PhD, MD, DO, DC, DDS, DVM, OD, DPM, ScD, DrPH, DNSc, PharmD, PsyD, or equivalent doctoral degree from an accredited domestic or foreign institution.
- By the time of the award, the individual must be a citizen or a non-citizen national of the United States or have been lawfully admitted for permanent residence (i.e., possess a currently valid Permanent Resident Card USCIS Form I-551, or other legal verification of such status).
- Applicants must be a member of the UMass Center for Clinical and Translational Science (UMCCTS). Apply for membership (no cost) online at: https://www.umassmed.edu/ccts/about/membership/.
- Individuals from underrepresented ethnic/racial groups, individuals with disabilities, and individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds are encouraged to apply (see https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-20-031.html).
A major goal of the UMass Center for Clinical and Translational Science (UMCCTS) is to accelerate the translation of basic discoveries into practical, cost effective solutions that improve human health. Building upon our strong reputation as a world-class research institution, producing noteworthy advances in clinical and basic research, the UMCCTS provides the infrastructure necessary to support outstanding clinical and translational investigators and their work.

Individual project awards (up to $50,000 for 1 year) will be made on a competitive basis to enable investigators to accelerate the translation of innovative discoveries into:

- New understanding and/or diagnosis of a disease process
- New devices, therapeutics, and vaccines for the treatment and/or prevention of disease
- New standards of care in the practice of community medicine
- New approaches to community-based research demonstrating true bi-directionality between community and academia
- New methodologies to leverage institutional strengths and new initiatives
- The pursuit of high-risk, high reward studies
FUNDING

PAR-22-105, PAR-22-109 AND PAR-22-106:
DISSEMINATION AND IMPLEMENTATION
RESEARCH IN HEALTH

(R01 Clinical Trial Optional)
(R21 Clinical Trial Optional)
(R03 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

Closing dates for applications: October 2022 with ongoing cycles through February 2025
LOIs due 30 days prior (Required for R01 & R21)

These FOAs support studies to identify, develop, and/or test strategies for overcoming barriers to the adoption, adaptation, integration, scale-up, and sustainability of evidence-based interventions, broadly defined. Studies that focus on underrepresented communities or that advance dissemination and implementation research methods and measures are encouraged.

More Info (R01)
More Info (R21)
More info (R03)

CLINICAL TRIAL READINESS FOR RARE DISEASES,
DISORDERS, AND SYNDROMES

(R21 CLINICAL TRIAL NOT ALLOWED)
(R03 CLINICAL TRIAL NOT ALLOWED)

CLOSING DATES FOR APPLICATIONS:
OCTOBER 17, 2022 WITH ONGOING CYCLES THROUGH OCTOBER 17, 2024

These FOAs support clinical projects addressing critical needs for clinical trial readiness in rare diseases. The initiative seeks applications that enable efficient and effective movement of candidate therapeutics or diagnostics towards clinical trials, develop and test rigorous biomarkers and clinical outcome assessment measures, and/or define the presentation and course of a rare disease.

More info (R21)
More Info (R03)
FUNDING

RFA-AI-22-055:

Maintaining Immunity After Immunization
(U01 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

Closing date for applications: January 13, 2023

This FOA promotes research to improve understanding of how vaccines against infectious agents lead to durable protective immunity. This initiative will support studies that define components and mechanisms of the immune system that determine such durability. Applications must propose use of human cells/tissues to decipher the human response elicited through vaccination, though animal studies may also be included.

MORE INFO

RFA-EB-22-002:

HEAL Initiative: Translational Development of Diagnostic and Therapeutic Devices
(R18 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

Closing date for applications: June 17, 2025

This opportunity targets development of clinical-grade prototypes intended for use as safe, effective, and non-addictive device-based technologies and approaches to treat pain. Awarded activities will facilitate the translation of new devices up to the stage of readiness for first in human (FIH) clinical trials by overcoming key challenges identified during preliminary proof-of-concept studies.

MORE INFO
Upcoming TriNetX Training Webinar

How to Utilize Real-World Data to Support Your Research and Clinical Trials

You are invited to attend the upcoming training webinars below to learn how to utilize the TriNetX platform to conduct research and support clinical trials utilizing real-world data.

These sessions include:

**TriNetX 101- Part 1: Basic Functionality Training**
September 8, 2022, 8:00 AM ET

**TriNetX 102- Part 2: Basic Functionality Training**
September 8, 2022, 10:00 AM ET

**TriNetX 201: Best Practices in Querying Oncology**
September 15, 2022, 12:00 PM ET

**TriNetX 401 - Part 1: Research & Analytics Training**
September 15, 2022, 2:00 PM ET

**TriNetX 401 - Part 2: Research & Analytics Training**
September 15, 2022, 4:00 PM ET
MOBILIZING THE PARTICIPANT VOICE: USING MYCAP TO ENHANCE PARTICIPANT ENGAGEMENT IN RESEARCH

Emily Serdoz, MPA

MyCap is a mobile application integrated with REDCap that can be easily configured without programming to collect ongoing participant information and patient-reported outcomes directly from study participants. Study teams can use MyCap to support participant engagement and retention on studies ranging from complex remote/no touch trials, studies using daily medication diaries, or studies seeking to capture or monitor symptomology between in-person study visits. In this webinar, we will share new features, new use cases, and future directions for MyCap as use continues to expand to more than 800 institutions around the world.
SHARE YOUR SUCCESS STORY!
Have you had your research published that cites the UMass Center for Clinical and Translational Science? Has your patent been filed on technology developed using Center funding or resources? Did your pilot project receive external grant funding? Share it with us at ccts@umassmed.edu. Sharing your success demonstrates the importance and effect of the Center for Clinical and Translational Science at UMass.

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS
To be included in the CCTS Monthly Newsletter, please send announcements, including a link, to ccts@umassmed.edu. The newsletter is published the first week of each month.