

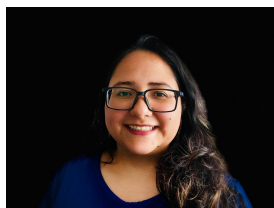


# CENTER FOR CLINICAL & TRANSLATIONAL SCIENCE

UMASS CCTS NEWSLETTER



**ANNOUNCING**  
our newest KL2 Scholar



Maira Castañeda-Avila, PhD, Assistant Professor, PQHS

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# NEWS

# CONGRATULATIONS



## Dr. Maira Castañeda-Avila

Maira Castañeda-Avila, PhD, Assistant Professor, PQHS, project title is:

*"Multiple chronic conditions and colorectal cancer in older Hispanic adults: a mixed methods approach"*

A major goal of the UMCCTS is to develop and support the next generation of leaders in clinical and translational research. This award specifically focuses on enhancing faculty diversity, and was made available for funding meritorious applications from eligible scholars who are from an underrepresented racial/ethnic group, have a disability, or are from a disadvantaged background.

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### The UMCCTS requests your participation in our annual customer satisfaction survey.

The goals of the 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. We are asking all members of our research community about our services. Your feedback and comments via this survey will help us to make our services and programs the best, most valuable, and most relevant to our users and members.

Please click here for more information about the [UMCCTS](#).

Please complete the survey using the link below.

The survey should only take a few minutes of your time.

<https://arcsapps.umassmed.edu/redcap/surveys/?s=3F4D4KM8F8>

*Thank you in advance for taking the time to help us improve.  
We truly appreciate your feedback!*

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### Request for Information: Advancing Clinical and Translational Science through Accelerating the Decentralization of Clinical Trials

**NCATS invites stakeholders throughout the scientific research, advocacy, clinical practice, industry, patient and lay communities, including the general public, to comment on how decentralized clinical trials (DCTs) may be designed to be more effective, efficient and equitable to bring more interventions to all people, faster.**

In particular, comments are sought on ways to enable participants from:

1. Diverse backgrounds, that includes, but is not limited to race, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, background, gender, and mental or physical ability; and
2. Those who are underserved, used in the context of Health Disparities related to population-based health

**Deadline for Comments: May 12, 2023**

[More Details](#)

# EVENTS

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

## A Joint Info Session by the CCTS & the Bridge Office



### **"An Introduction to I-Corps at UMass Chan"**

**Nate Hafer, PhD**  
Director of Operations

### **"What to Expect When You Are Inventing"**

**Chase Gerold, PhD**  
Associate Director, Intellectual  
Property Management

Thursday, April 13 from 12-1 pm

Does your latest discovery have  
commercial value?  
Would a potential "customer" of your  
research welcome your technology,  
protocol, or intervention?

Come to this webinar to learn how resources at UMass  
Chan can help move your idea to commercial product.

[https://umassmed.zoom.us/j/5682209338?  
pwd=dHRmWnBnWHBZZ1I0c3B4M05Pc3BTdz09](https://umassmed.zoom.us/j/5682209338?pwd=dHRmWnBnWHBZZ1I0c3B4M05Pc3BTdz09)  
Password: 809084



Zoom Meeting Link

A banner for the UMCCTS Projects in Process Seminar Series (PiPSS). The left side shows a person in a white lab coat working in a laboratory. The right side is a dark blue background with white and red text. The text reads: 'UMCCTS Projects in Process Seminar Series, PiPSS', 'Fridays, 11:00 AM to 12:00 PM', and 'January 6th through May 19th'. The UMass logo is in the bottom right corner.

UMCCTS  
Projects in Process  
Seminar Series, **PIPSS**  
Fridays, 11:00 AM to 12:00 PM  
January 6th through May 19th



## PROJECTS IN PROCESS SEMINAR SERIES

Fridays, 11:00 AM to 12:00 PM  
January 6th through May 19th 2023 | Virtual

As part of the T, K, MSCI, and Millennium programs, the annual Projects in Process Seminar Series (PiPSS) will take place January through May 2023 on Friday mornings via Zoom. We look forward to hearing about our scholars/trainees progress on their research projects.

We encourage scholars, mentors and faculty to join us at as many PiPSS presentations as possible. This is a great opportunity for scholars to get to know others interested in or who hold research positions. In addition, presentations on CCTS core resources will also be included.

Zoom Link:

<https://umassmed.zoom.us/j/98536008463?pwd=QkpDMzJhdDVkSUFNWjRQaERVcDE1QT09>

[Zoom Meeting Link](#)

Presenter	Title	Date
Paul Thompson and Shruti Choudhary	Small Molecule Screening Core	April 7th
Ben Weitz	"Coping with COVID: Examining Coping Behaviors in People with Type 2 Diabetes and Depression at the Start of the Pandemic."	April 7th
Sohye Kim	TBD	April 14th
Open	TBD	April 14th
Nisha Fahey	TBD	April 21st
Grace Ryan	"Intervention Development to Promote Adolescent Vaccination in Rural Primary Care Settings"	April 21st
Stephen Diggs	TBD	April 28th

## Data Visualization for Effective Science Communication With Diverse Audiences

**MONDAY, MAY 8, 2023**

**10:00 AM – 12:00 PM EST  
Via Zoom (Registration is Required!)**

Participants will learn about various approaches to visualizing scientific findings and data for effective communication with diverse audiences. Focus will be on both key principles of effective data visualization as well as concrete skill-building amongst participants.

Presenters are Narges Mahyar, PhD, Assistant Professor in the College of Information and Computer Sciences at the University of Massachusetts Amherst and Ali Sarvghad Batn Moghaddam, PhD, Research Assistant Professor, in the College of Information and Computer Sciences at the University of Massachusetts Amherst.

**Click below to register.**  
Real-time Captioning will be provided.

This is the third workshop in a 3-part series on Science Communication. The workshops are related but stand alone. You do not need to have attended earlier sessions to take part fully in this workshop.

<https://www.umassmed.edu/ccts/community/>

[Register Here](#)





Narges Mahyar, PhD, is an Assistant Professor in the College of Information and Computer Sciences at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. Professor Mahyar's research falls at the intersection of social computing and design with the goal of augmenting groups' abilities to solve complex problems.



Ali Sarvghad Batn Moghaddam, PhD, is a Research Assistant Professor, in the College of Information and Computer Sciences at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. Dr. Sarvghad's research investigates novel visualization and interaction techniques for supporting exploratory data analysis and sense-making.

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## NEW! Orientation to Clinical Research at UMass Chan

The CCTS Office of Clinical Research (OCR) will be hosting **in-person** sessions titled, "*Orientation to Clinical Research at UMass Chan*" on a monthly basis.

These sessions will provide a high-level overview of the resources and systems that are in use and available at UMass Chan, as well guidance related to account access and other institutional policies around the conduct of clinical research. Further, these sessions will also provide an opportunity to meet some of the OCR staff, learn where the OCR and IRB are physically located, as well as to meet colleagues from other departments who are also engaged in clinical research.

**Mark your calendar and join us for one of the upcoming dates:  
Wed, April 19th , Thur, May 18th, Thur, June 15th**

[More Info Here](#)

# FUNDING

# Collaborative Program Grant for Multidisciplinary Teams

(RM1 - Clinical Trial Optional)

Posted Date: February 3, 2023  
Application Due Dates: May 26, 2023,  
with cycles through January 27, 2026

FOA supports highly integrated research teams of three to six PD/PIs to address ambitious and challenging research questions that are important for the mission of NIGMS and are beyond the scope of one or two investigators. Teams are encouraged to consider far-reaching objectives that will produce major advances in their fields.

[More Info](#)

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## NOT-OD-23-093 and NOT-OD-23-099: Notice of Intent to Publish FOAs: Early-stage Data Repositories and Knowledgebases and Established Data Repositories and Knowledgebases

(R24/U24 - Clinical Trials Not Allowed)

Estimated Publication Date: Spring 2023  
Estimated Application Due Date: Fall 2023

The NIH Office of Data Science Strategy (ODSS) with other NIH ICs, intends to promote an initiative by publishing a FOA to solicit applications for early-stage (NOT-OD-23-093) or established (NOT-OD-23-099) biomedical data repositories or knowledgebases.

[More Info \(Early  
Stage\)](#)

[More Info \(Established\)](#)

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# Novel Assays to Address Translational Gaps in Treatment Development

(UG3/UH3 - Clinical Trial Optional)

Posted Date: January 12, 2023

Application Due Dates: June 21, 2023, with cycles through June 20, 2025

The goal of this initiative is to identify neurophysiological measures as potential assays for mental health treatment development research. This FOA will support efforts to optimize and evaluate measures of neurophysiological processes that are disrupted within or across mental disorders in both healthy humans and in another species relevant to the therapeutic development pipeline.

[More Info](#)

## EDUCATION & TRAINING

*Interested in pursuing a translational science career as a Medical Scientist? If you are – or plan to be - enrolled in a dual clinician-scientist doctoral program, this NCATS-funded fellowship opportunity might be for you!*

PAR-23-109:

### NIH Medical Scientist Partnership Program

The program aims to develop a diverse pool of combined doctoral degree students (e.g., MD/PhD, DNP/PhD, PharmD/PhD) who will conduct their PhD dissertation research at research laboratories in the NIH Intramural Research Program. MSPP Scholars will gain experience in the basic, translational, and clinical biomedical sciences to prepare them for leadership positions in biomedical careers.

Applications due: August 8, 2023

[More Info](#)

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**R Club**  
Research Writing Group

Next Meetings  
April 4th & 18th, 2023  
11:00 AM -12:00 PM ~ Virtual, Zoom

Are you an early stage investigator looking to write your first R21 or R01?



Would you like input and feedback on your proposal from experienced faculty who have been there before? The UMCCTS is pleased to offer the R Club, a peer group that meets twice a month to review and plan for successful R-level grant submissions. Interested? Please email [nathaniel.hafer@umassmed.edu](mailto:nathaniel.hafer@umassmed.edu) to be added to our mailing list.

Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android:

[https://umassmed.zoom.us/j/5682209338?  
pwd=dHRmWnBnWHBZZ1I0c3B4M05Pc3BTdz09](https://umassmed.zoom.us/j/5682209338?pwd=dHRmWnBnWHBZZ1I0c3B4M05Pc3BTdz09)

Password: 809084

[Zoom Meeting Link](#)

## K Award

### Research Writing Group

#### Next Meetings

April 26th, 2023 ~ 4:00-5:00 PM ~ Virtual, Zoom

The K Award Writing Group supports junior faculty in the development of K-level “Mentored Research Scientist Career Development Award” applications. According to NIH, the award is intended to provide either progressive training or further experience in research related to biomedical, behavioral, or clinical sciences. The mentored approach provides the knowledge required for the K-Awardee to progress into an independent researcher over the award period.

K Award Group meets bi-weekly on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month from 4-5 pm via Zoom. Attendance at K Award Group meetings can be for information purposes and/or for review of your application. The group meets to outline the K-Award writing process and to review material being submitted by/to the group for input.

To register to attend the K Award Group, please email [Robyn.Leonard@umassmed.edu](mailto:Robyn.Leonard@umassmed.edu).

[More Info Here](#)

## Transdisciplinary Training in Cardiovascular Research T32

### Training Program

UMass Chan Medical School has a cardiovascular T32 training grant entitled

"Transdisciplinary Training in Cardiovascular Research" under the direction and senior leadership of Drs. Catarina Kiefe and Kevin Donahue. The program represents a unique opportunity for the institution to promote the entire spectrum (T0 – T5) of cardiovascular research on our campus.

### **\*\*Request for Post-Doctoral Trainee Applications\*\***

Applicant Eligibility:

[https://grants.nih.gov/grants/policy/nihgps/HTML5/section\\_11/11.3.2\\_eligibility.htm](https://grants.nih.gov/grants/policy/nihgps/HTML5/section_11/11.3.2_eligibility.htm) and

### **\*\*Request for Pre-Doctoral Trainee Applications\*\***

Applicant Eligibility:

[https://grants.nih.gov/grants/policy/nihgps/HTML5/section\\_11/11.3.2\\_eligibility.htm](https://grants.nih.gov/grants/policy/nihgps/HTML5/section_11/11.3.2_eligibility.htm)

#### **Submission Deadline Date:**

Applications will be reviewed and appointments will be made on a rolling basis.

Send completed applications on or before June 1, 2023 by 5:00 pm EST to:

[Rebecca.Gigliello@umassmed.edu](mailto:Rebecca.Gigliello@umassmed.edu)

[More Info & Application Links](#)

## **Join Us! Clinical Research Professionals Group (CRPG) Meetings**

- Want to know stay up-to-date about changes to regulations, research systems, and research related institutional policies around the campus?
- Want to learn about the various core services that can assist you and your department in your projects and trials?
- Interested in educational resources, trainings, and professional certifications?

Join us for the monthly Clinical Research Professionals Group (CRPG) meetings to hear about these topics and more!

More info, meeting schedule, and past meetings can be found on the [CCTS CRPG SharePoint page](#).

Want to join the CRPG Distribution Group?

[Submit a TRACs Request Here](#)

## CITE & SUBMIT



Please cite the NIH CTSA award any time you use The UMMS Center for Clinical and Translational Science resources, services and facilities or received funding through the Center. "The project described is supported by the National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences, National Institutes of Health, through Grant UL1 TR001453, (or TL1 TR001454, or KL2 TR001455, as appropriate). The content is solely the responsibility of the authors and does not necessarily represent the official views of the NIH."

## 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](mailto: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](mailto:ccts@umassmed.edu).

The newsletter is published the first week of each month.



**KATHERINE LUZURIAGA, MD**  
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