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UMCCTS Newsletter, April 2014

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April 2014 Newsletter
University of Massachusetts Center for Clinical and Translational Science

NEWS:

REGISTRATIONS ARE NOW OPEN!

Please register for each event you plan on attending...

5th Annual UMass Center for Clinical and Translational Science Research Retreat
Tuesday, May 20, 2014 (7:30 am Registration till 8:00 pm reception/hors d'oeuvres)
<http://www.umassmed.edu/ccts/researchretreat2014>

18th Annual UMass Basic Research/Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences Retreat
Thursday, May 22, 2014 (7:30 am Registration till 8:00 pm reception/dinner)
<http://www.umassmed.edu/research/annualretreat/>

CONGRATULATIONS!
UMCCTS 2014 Pilot Project Program (PPP) Awardees:

UMass PI and Collaborator(s):	Project Title:
<p>Lucio H. Castilla, PhD Associate Professor, Program in Gene Function and Expression</p>	<p><i>Study the Efficacy of Novel Targeted Therapy Drug for inv16 Acute Myeloid Leukemia in vivo</i></p>
<p>Nina Deng, Ed.D., MA Assistant Professor, Department of Quantitative Health Sciences</p> <p>John E. Ware, Jr., PhD Professor and Division Chief, Quantitative Health Sciences</p> <p>Jeroan Allison, MD, MS Professor and Vice Chair, Department of Quantitative Health Sciences</p> <p>Arlene Ash, PhD Professor and Division Chief, Department of Quantitative Health Sciences</p> <p>Hua Fang, PhD Assistant Professor, Division of Biostatistics and Health Sciences Research, Department of Quantitative Health Sciences</p>	<p><i>Statistical Significance and Power Analyses for Relative Validity Comparisons among Patient-Reported Outcome Measurement Tools</i></p>
<p>Anastasia Khvorova, PhD Professor, Department of Molecular Medicine, RNA Therapeutics Institute</p>	<p><i>Development of Novel Class of Therapeutic Oligonucleotides based on Small Molecule Screening</i></p>
<p>John E. Landers, PhD Director, Center for ALS Genetics Day Neuromuscular Research Laboratory Associate Professor, Department of Neurology</p>	<p><i>Evaluation of Candidate ALS Genes by AAV9 Transgene Delivery into Mice</i></p>

Beth A. McCormick, PhD Professor, Microbiology and Physiological Systems Gang Han, PhD Assistant Professor, Biochemistry and Molecular Pharmacology	<i>Semi-Synthetic Nanobug: Mimicking Bacterial Pathogens to Overcome Multidrug Resistance in Tumors</i>
Phillip D. Zamore, PhD Gretchen Stone Cook Professor, Biomedical Sciences Guang-Ping Gao, PhD Professor, Microbiology & Physiological Systems Director, Gene Therapy Center	<i>Cell Type-specific Gene Silencing by Tethered microRNAs</i>

CONGRATULATIONS!
2014 Office of Global Health Pilot Project Program Awardees

UMass PI:	Project Title:
Patricia McQuilkin, MD Clinical Associate Professor, Department of Pediatrics	<i>Validating a Case Definition for Severe Malaria in Liberia</i>
Javier Gordon Ogembo Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine	<i>Strengthening Clinical and Research Capacity for Cervical Cancer Screening, Prevention, and Treatment in Cameroon</i>
Sherry Pagoto, PhD Associate Professor, Division of Preventive and Behavioral Medicine, Department of Medicine	<i>Understanding of the Intersection of Behavioral, Psychosocial and Cultural Risk Factors in the Context of Maternal and Child mHealth Interventions in the Peruvian Andes</i>

DID YOU KNOW?

New Consultant to the UMMS Institutional Review Board (IRB)

Kristin M. Mattocks, PhD, MPH (contact information: <http://profiles.umassmed.edu/Profiles/display/132047>), Assistant Professor, Health Informatics and Implementation Science, Department of Quantitative Health Sciences, UMMS, is now serving as a consultant to the UMMS Institutional Review Board (IRB) on study design. This, plus the resources from Biostatistics, Epidemiology, and Research Design (BERD) are ways in which the Department of Quantitative Health Sciences and the UMass Center for Clinical and Translational Science are collaborating to improve the quality of clinical and translational research.

Research Core Services
UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA
GENE THERAPY PROGRAM

CORE SUPPORT AVAILABLE FOR RESEARCH ON
MOLECULAR THERAPY OF CYSTIC FIBROSIS

Core support is available for investigators doing molecular therapy research on cystic fibrosis (CF). We invite participants who are currently performing research in CF with topics ranging from CF disease to vector biology to express interest for subsidized access to various services provided by the Penn NIDDK P30 (CF Research and Translation Core Center).

Five Cores are available and up to 50% subsidy for Core services will be provided. The Cores and representative services are listed below.

- Vector Core [UPenn, Director, Julie Johnston]

AAV, adenoviral, lentiviral vectors, construction of custom vectors
<http://www.med.upenn.edu/gtp/vectorcore/>

- Animal Models Core [UPenn, Director, Maria Limberis]
Cystic fibrosis mice, study design, technical support
- Cell Morphology Core [UPenn, Director, Peter Bell]
Sample collection, processing and staining
<http://www.med.upenn.edu/gtp/morphology.shtml>
- Immunology Core [UPenn, Director, Roberto Calcedo]
T cell and B cell assays, FACS analysis, ELISPOT
<http://www.med.upenn.edu/gtp/immunology.shtml>
- Ion Transport Core [Johns Hopkins University, Director, Liudmila Cebotaru]
In vitro assessment of CFTR gene correction

If you are interested in learning more about the services that our Cores have to offer, please visit our website:
<http://www.med.upenn.edu/gtp/PilotInstructions2014.shtml>

We invite you to reach out to the Core Directors to discuss your research interests and to ask any questions you may have about the Core services. For general inquiries, contact: Monique Molloy, 215-573-8435,
moniquek@mail.med.upenn.edu

EVENTS:

UMass Center for Clinical and Translational Science - Seminar Series

“MOLECULAR STUDIES OF MALARIA: FROM DRUG RESISTANCE TO BURKITT LYMPHOMA”

Jeffrey Bailey, MD, PhD

Assistant Professor,
Program in Bioinformatics and Integrative Biology and
Department of Medicine – Transfusion Medicine
University of Massachusetts Medical School

Thursday, April 10, 2014

12:00 – 1:00 pm

**Faculty Conference Room S1-342
UMMS Worcester Campus**

Lunch will be served.

UMMS Bioinformatics Core and Program in Bioinformatics and Integrative Biology An Informal Discussion

“USING NETWORKS TO MEASURE SIMILARITY BETWEEN GENES: ASSOCIATION INDEX SELECTION”

Juan Fuxman Bass, PhD

Postdoctoral Fellow
Marian Walhout Lab
Program in Systems Biology

Friday, April 11, 2014

11:00 am – 12:00 pm

**Albert Sherman Center, 6th Floor Conference Room AS6-2072
UMMS Worcester Campus**

Host: Manuel Garber, PhD, Director, Bioinformatics Core, UMMS

**UMMS Quantitative Health Sciences
Grand Rounds Series**

“DIAGNOSTIC ERRORS IN MEDICINE: TIME FOR A NEW PARADIGM”

**Wednesday, April 16, 2014
3:30 – 4:30 pm
Albert Sherman Center, Conference Room AS8.2072 (8th Floor)
UMMS Worcester Campus**

and...

Bioethics Interest Group (BIG) and Students for a National Health Program (SNaHP)

“CROSSING BOUNDARIES TO BETTER CARE FOR OUR PATIENTS: VIOLATION OR OBLIGATION”

**Wednesday, April 16, 2014
5:30 – 6:30 pm
Amphitheater II (floors 4 and 5)
UMMS Worcester Campus**

Gordon Schiff, MD
Associate Director
Center for Patient Safety Research and Practice
Division of General Internal Medicine
Brigham and Women's Hospital
Associate Professor of Medicine
Harvard Medical School

**UMass Lowell
Department of Clinical Laboratory & Nutritional Sciences
Spring 2014 Colloquium**

“DIET AND CARDIOMETABOLIC RISK – NEW EVIDENCE AND INSIGHTS”

Dariush Mozaffarian, MD
Associate Professor,
Division of Cardiovascular Medicine
Harvard School of Medicine

**Thursday, April 24, 2014
12:30 – 1:30 pm
O'Leary Library, Room #222
South Campus
University of Massachusetts Lowell**

Host: Mahdi Garelnabi, PhD, Assistant Professor, UMass Lowell (mahdi_garelnabi@uml.edu)

**UMCCTS Community Engagement & Research
Webinar Series**

The UMCCTS Community Engagement & Research invites researchers and community members interested in community engaged research to join in an upcoming webinar. It is free and open to all!

**April 29, 2014
Noon – 1:00 pm**

**Culturally Responsive Recruitment and
Retention in Community Research**

Milagros C. Rosal, PhD

Professor of Medicine, Division of Preventive and Behavioral Medicine
Co-Director, UMass Center for Health Equity Intervention Research (CHEIR)
Co-Director, UMass Worcester Prevention Research Center, UMMS

Visit the Community Engagement & Research website to Register: www.umassmed.edu/ccts/community

Massachusetts Advanced Manufacturing Summit 2014

**Tuesday, April 29, 2014
7:00 am – 3:00 pm
DCU Center, Worcester**

Complete information and registration at: <http://ampitupma.com/summit>

UMASS 2014 COMMERCIALIZATION AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP SEMINAR SERIES

Sponsored by, UMass Center for Clinical & Translational Science, Office of Technology Management, and Commercial Ventures and Intellectual Property

Please register for each event you are interested in attending...

Thursday, May 1, 2014

THE PATH TO COMMERCIALIZATION OF YOUR DISCOVERY

Todd S. Keiller, PhD, Director, Technology Transfer, Worcester Polytechnic Institute

Stephen McCarthy, PhD, Distinguished University Professor, Plastics Engineering; Director, Massachusetts Medical Device Development Center (M2D2), University of Massachusetts Lowell

REGISTER:

<http://events.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=et5a44aab&oeidk=a07e91efrxt7a21d1e2>

Wednesday, May 14, 2014

HOW TO INTERACT WITH COMPANIES

James P. McNamara, PhD, Executive Director, Office of Technology Management, University of Massachusetts Medical School

Other panelist speakers: TBA

REGISTER:

<http://events.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=et5a44aab&oeidk=a07e91efs4i326f49bc>

All meetings will be held in the **Faculty Conference Room (S1-342)** on the UMass Worcester campus
12:00 – 1:00 pm. *Lunch will be served.*

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!

**The Models to Medicine Center of the Institute of Life Sciences at UMass Amherst presents an
Inaugural Symposium**

“MODELS TO MEDICINE: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES”

Friday, May 2, 2014

Life Sciences Laboratories
University of Massachusetts Amherst
Thatcher Way, Amherst, MA 01003

Complete information and registration at: <http://www.umass.edu/m2msymposium/>

Questions: sloomis@umass.edu

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES:

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/research/grantopps.aspx>

Massachusetts Neuroscience Consortium Round 2 Funding: Request for Proposals

Introduction

The **Massachusetts Life Sciences Center (MLSC)** is pleased to announce the launch of a **second Request for Proposals (RFP)** funded by the global biopharmaceutical companies that comprise the Massachusetts Neuroscience Consortium. Each of the Consortium Members have contributed to the total project funding of \$1,250,000.

Purpose

For this second round, the Consortium has expanded the diseases of interest and is seeking proposals to fund the identification and validation of novel targets for the symptomatic treatment and modification of chronic and debilitating neurodegenerative and neuroinflammatory diseases (such as AD, PD, MS, Huntington's and ALS), neuropathic pain and treatment-resistant depression. All proposals must be anchored in recognized human disease genetics and pathophysiology, or within pathways of known relevance to human disease, and should be translational, rather than exploratory.

All Massachusetts academic and research institutions are eligible to apply. There is no limit to the number of applications that may be submitted from any one institution.

The deadline for 2-page Pre-Proposal applications is **May 15, 2014 at noon**. Interested applicants must apply via the MLSC's Web site at: <https://forms.masslifesciences.com/neuro2014q2/>

Questions: Beth Nicklas at 781-373-7715 or neuroscience@masslifesciences.com

Please remember to cite the CTSA Grant # UL1TR000161 in all supported journal publications.

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