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UMCCTS Newsletter, July 2024

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CENTER FOR CLINICAL & TRANSLATIONAL SCIENCE

UMASS CCTS NEWSLETTER



HIGHLIGHTS

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CCTS resources and services

EVENTS

LAST CHANCE TO REGISTER - Housing, Homelessness and Health Seminar TODAY!

EDUCATION

I-CORPS SIGN-UP DEADLINE & CALL FOR R CLUB MENTOR

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NEWS

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEWEST KL2 SCHOLAR

KL2 Scholar 2024



Melissa Goulding, MS, PhD

**Department of Population and Quantitative
Health Sciences**

Title: Improving Identification and
Management of Pediatric Hypertension
through Community Clinical Linkages:
Development and Beta Testing of BP-Link
Transmission Dynamics among Latinx and
Black Communities in MA

Primary mentor: Stephenie Lemon, PhD

Other mentors: Milagros Rosal, PhD; Arvin
Garg, MD, MPH; Michelle Trivedi, MD, MPH

Catalyze Your Research

A "Did You Know?" Series

This month's focus is
on the Advance MRI
Center (AMRIC) and
Image Processing and
Analysis Core (iPAC).



A turn-key solution to your imaging needs:

Pre-project meeting* | **Design and optimization of protocol*** | **Scanning test cases*** | **Actual experimental scanning** | **Post-processing of data (iPAC)** **Gratis*

MRI capabilities for clinical research: Non-invasive characterization of structure, flow, diffusion, function, stiffness (displacement), viability

MRI capabilities for preclinical research: Animal models of human disease (longitudinal studies), high-throughput, molecular imaging, quantitative imaging biomarkers

iPAC capabilities: Study design, modeling & simulations, experiment, image processing & analysis, manuscripts and proposals

Use the link below to read about available equipment, services, reservations, the team, and their location, as well as two researchers' accounts of their catalyzed research through the use of the AMRIC.

[More Details Here](#)



Transdisciplinary Training Program in Cardiovascular Research (T32)

Accepting Pre- and Post-Doctoral Applications
Deadline is July 12, 2024 at 5:00 PM ET

Please Visit Our Website for More Information



[Visit our Website](#)



UMCCTS

KL2 Request for Application (RFA)

Mentored Career Development Opportunities



KL2 Request for Applications (RFA) MENTORED FACULTY CAREER DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITY

Letters of Intent are due by 5pm on July 15, 2024

Are You an Early-Career Faculty Member at the University of Massachusetts with an Interest in Health-Focused Research? Learn more about the UMCCTS KL2 Program's Mentored Career Development Program and current opportunity on Monday, June 24, 2024 from 1:00-2:00 pm EST at: [INFO SESSION ZOOM LINK HERE.](#)

The UMCCTS KL2 Mentored Career Development Program (PI: Dr. Catarina Kiefe) is currently seeking applications from early career faculty and advanced postdocs who wish to make a career of innovative, transdisciplinary healthcare research aimed at bringing more treatments to all people more quickly.

Letters of Intent are due by 5pm on July 15, 2024, with invited proposals subsequently due on September 20, 2024. Earliest award start date is November 1, 2024.

The UMCCTS provides research support to investigators and trainees at all five UMass Campuses (Amherst, Boston, Dartmouth, Lowell, and Worcester), Baystate Medical Center, and soon at Lahey Hospital.

Please see links below for more information.

[Request for Application](#)

[KL2 Training Program
Website](#)

The UMass Center for Clinical and Translational Science (UMCCTS), is a member of the Clinical and Translational Science Awards (CTSA) consortium, a group of over 60 medical research institutions funded by the National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences (NCATS), a division of the National

Offering funding, core research services, training, mentoring and networking opportunities - the UMCCTS works to catalyze innovation in training, research tools and processes, thereby improving the translational research process to get more treatments to all patients more quickly.

Communities Advancing Research Equity for Health (CARE for Health™)

Integrate research into the clinical care environment

Engender trust in science by addressing community needs

Achieve longitudinal collection of clinical data to address health across the lifespan

Conduct research addressing issues important to diverse communities, particularly those underrepresented in biomedical research

Reduce burden on providers using innovative data collection methods

Increase adherence to evidence-based care

Improve efficiency of care delivery



Community-based primary care practices

NIH launches \$30 million pilot to test feasibility of a national primary care research network

Initiative aims to improve health outcomes by integrating research in everyday primary care settings.

[Visit the Website for Details](#)

EVENTS

HOUSING, HOMELESSNESS, AND HEALTH: WHAT CAN HEALTH SYSTEMS DO?

MONDAY, JULY 1, 2024

4:00 – 5:00 PM EST

Via Zoom (Registration is Required)

[REGISTER](#)

Hear the perspectives of health systems experts on housing programs and policies, how they impact the health and well-being of communities, and how health systems can help shape policy in the domain of housing.

FEATURED SPEAKERS



Marisa Conner is a Community Health Consultant with Kaiser Permanente with more than a decade of experience implementing cross-sector initiatives focused on establishing healthier and more equitable communities. Marisa has held several roles across government, community-based organizations, and foundations all focused on addressing complex social issues such as homelessness.



David Robinson is the Senior Manager of Housing Operations and Strategy at Boston Medical Center and has been at BMC for over 3 years. David oversees operations and strategy for the Living Well at Home Program – BMC’s housing services department that serves ~650 clients annually. David also helps shape BMC’s housing and homelessness policy agenda.



Eileen O'Brien is Program Director of Housing Services for Boston Medical Center. Eileen has been working on behalf of low-income, medically complex, homeless, and at-risk individuals in Boston for over 40 years, and currently oversees a diverse team of case managers and social workers who assist patients with securing and maintaining safe, affordable permanent housing. She has been an advocate for resources and public policy changes aimed at preventing and ending homelessness.

This is the final session in a 3-part series on Housing, Homelessness and Health: Evidence, Policy, and Impact. The series is for all interested, especially community members. Each session focused on a different topic related to the housing crisis. You do not need to have attended earlier sessions to take part.



[REGISTER](#)

Check out previous sessions:

April 2, 2024: What Can Communities Do?

January 17, 2024: What Do We Know About Housing, Homelessness, & Health, and What is Being Done?



[January 17, 2024 Session](#)

[April 2, 2024 Session](#)

FUNDING

PAR-24-157 & PAR-24-158 and NOT-TR-24-026:

Addressing Health Inequities in Clinical Diagnostics
(R41/R42 and R43/R44 Clinical Trials Not Allowed)

PAR Posted Date: February 29, 2024

Notice Release Date: May 23, 2024

Technical Webinar Date: July 10, 2024 at 3:00pm ET (registration required)

Application Due Dates: September 5, 2024 with cycles through January 2027

NOFO encourages applications from Small Business Concerns (SBCs) to pursue the development of improved clinical diagnostics or the development of alternative clinical diagnostics that address health disparities created by clinical laboratory assays and/or point-of-care devices that fail to incorporate diverse patient groups.

More Info: PAR-24-
157

More Info: PAR-24-
158

More Info: NOT-TR-24-
026

Extended Closing Date for PAR-21-123:

Innovation Grants to Nurture Initial Translational Efforts (IGNITE): Development and Validation of Model Systems to Facilitate Neurotherapeutic Discovery

(R61/R33 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

Last Updated Date: June 20, 2024

Current Closing Date for Applications: October 21, 2024

NOFO encourages the development and validation of animal models and human/animal tissue ex vivo systems that recapitulate the phenotypic and physiologic characteristics of a defined neurological or neuromuscular disorder.

MORE INFO

RFA-MH-25-195:

Individually Measured Phenotypes to Advance Computational Translation in Mental Health (IMPACT-MH)

(U01 Clinical Trial Optional)

Posted Date: June 26, 2024

Application Due Date: October 18, 2024

NOFO is intended to stimulate and support research that will use behavioral measures and computational methods to define novel clinical signatures that can be used for individual-level prediction and clinical decision making in mental disorders.

[MORE INFO](#)

EDUCATION & TRAINING

I-Corps @ NCATS Regional Short Course

Register for the upcoming I-Corps Program

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

The I-Corps Program at the UMCCTS, a UMass Center for Clinical and Translational Science (UMCCTS) initiative, is designed to support the translation of biomedical research by providing early-stage education and strategic guidance to faculty, staff and students during the ideation phase of technology development.

Registration deadline is Sept 3, 2024

[Visit our
Website](#)

Mentoring Opportunity – R Club

Are you an experienced investigator with a track record of R-level funding? Are you interested in helping early-stage investigators plan and write successful grants? Please contact Nate Hafer at Nathaniel.Hafer@umassmed.edu to learn more.

Orientation to Clinical Research at UMass Chan

The CCTS Office of Clinical Research (OCR)
continues to host in-person sessions on a monthly basis.

(Registration required)

These sessions 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.

UPCOMING DATES: July 11, August 1 and Sept. 5, 2024 at 9:00 AM

[MORE INFO](#)

**Please note: You will need to log in with UMass Chan credentials in order to register. Otherwise, please email OCR staff members Ann Han (ann.han@umassmed.edu) and Eric Stratton (eric.stratton@umassmed.edu) to be manually added to an orientation session.*

Registration is Required

Seating is limited to 20 individuals per session, so we kindly ask that you register for this session.

[REGISTER
HERE](#)

K Award Research Writing Group

Next Meetings

Wednesday, July 10th & 24th, 2024~ 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.

Visit our
Website

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

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.



KATHERINE LUZURIAGA, MD
PI AND DIRECTOR, UMCCTS



TERENCE R. FLOTTE, MD
CO-DIRECTOR, UMCCTS

UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS CENTER FOR CLINICAL AND TRANSLATIONAL SCIENCE
55 LAKE AVENUE N, WORCESTER MA 01655

UMASS Center for Clinical & Translational Science (UMCCTS) | 362 Plantation St. AC7-216 |
Worcester, MA 01605 US

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