Director's Message

Kristi Holmes, PhD, Director of Galter Health Sciences Library and Associate Professor in Preventive Medicine-Health and Biomedical Informatics, discusses how the Library supports the research, education, and patient care activities of the Feinberg School of Medicine and McGaw Medical Center. She also highlights the Library’s new initiatives and staff.

Highlights include:

- Enhanced literature and systematic review support
- Support for compliance of public access policies
- Impact and evaluation service

Read Director's Message>

NUCATS Point of Contact Interview

With a name, a face and contact information, you’ll be able to connect with NUCATS better than ever. This month get to know...

Luke Rasmussen
IS Architecture Engineer Lead

Meet Luke Rasmussen, NUCATS Point of Contact for custom software development in the electronic Medical Records and Genomics (eMERGE) II project. If you are interested in learning about an aspect of the project related to transferring genetic test results into electronic health records, Luke is your contact.

Read Interview>
NUCATS Clinical and Translational Research Studio Consultations: Connect with NUCATS Early and Often
The NUCATS Institute offers clinical and translational research Studio consultations to investigators who are in the planning stages of a new program or center grant at Northwestern University and affiliate institutions. A Studio brings together leadership from NUCATS and our affiliates to identify relevant resources that can help support and enhance grant submissions. The intent of a Studio is to provide investigators with dedicated space and time to receive multidisciplinary guidance from clinical and translational science experts and leverage existing NIH-supported infrastructure through the NUCATS Institute in order to be more competitive for federal funding. Learn about the in-kind or heavily subsidized existing NUCATS resources and services research teams have been able to take advantage of as a result of NUCATS Studios>

Community

Stakeholder Spotlight: REACH Practice-Based Research Network
The Research and Education for Academic Achievement (REACH) Practice-Based Research Network is part of IPHAM's Center for Community Health and is directed by faculty in the Department of Medicine, Division of General Internal Medicine and Geriatrics. Founded in 2007, REACH includes 9 practices and over 150 adult medicine physicians in the Chicago area. In this interview, Erik Orelind, MD, MPH, Director of REACH and Assistant Professor of Medicine-General Internal Medicine and Geriatrics, discusses how the Network provides busy healthcare providers who desire opportunities for research with connections to academic faculty for guidance and mentorship. He also highlights the Network's current research project studying clinical quality improvement in small practices. Read Interview>

ARCC Hosts Workshop on Role of Researchers in Policy Development Process
Responding to requests from academic and community research partners, the Alliance for Research in Chicagoland Communities (ARCC), hosted a workshop to share guidance and strategies for ensuring that research is designed, conducted, and disseminated in ways that will contribute to evidence-based policy making. The event's main speaker, Kendall Stagg, Chief of Policy and Senior Advisor to the Chicago Department of Public Health’s Commissioner, shared concrete examples of how academic partners have assisted with policy research, development, and evaluation related to the City of Chicago’s priorities. Key takeaways from his presentation included using images to illustrate research findings and to communicate complicated issues and creating simple 'share lines' for Twitter, social media, or other communication mechanisms to help distribute research findings messages to the public.

Karen Reitan, Executive Director of the Public Health Institute of Metropolitan
Chicago, and Margie Schaps, Executive Director of the Health and Medicine Policy Research Group, also shared information about their organizations. Both organizations can help research partnerships in the planning process and with the dissemination of findings and are interested in opportunities for collaboration with research teams. To access materials from the workshop, please click here. To connect with ARCC for assistance with considering policy impact of your research, please click here.

NUCATS and IPHAM’s CCH Job Announcements
The NUCATS Institute and IPHAM’s Center for Community Health (CCH) are soliciting applications for a Research Portfolio Manager for Community and Stakeholder Engagement and for an Associate Director for Community and Stakeholder Engagement. Applications and questions about the positions should be submitted to cch@northwestern.edu.

Education

NUCATS Spotlight: MSCI Student - Larry Kociolek, MD
NUCATS highlights MSCI student, Larry Kociolek, MD, Instructor in Pediatrics-Infectious Diseases. In his interview, Larry discusses how the MSCI program provides him with a fundamental understanding of epidemiology and biostatistics which is essential for his research interest in preventing healthcare-associated infections. He also highlights his current research project studying the clinical and molecular epidemiology of pediatric Clostridium difficile infections. Read Interview>

NUCATS CECD Hosting Office Hours on Evanston Campus
The NUCATS Institute’s Center for Education and Career Development (CECD) offers programs dedicated to helping early career investigators and research staff grow their own clinical and translational research careers at NU. CECD is now hosting office hours on the Evanston campus every second Tuesday of the month to meet with those who are interested in learning about the opportunities available for career development and enrichment. Register for a consultation appointment with the NUCATS CECD Research Navigator>

December Clinical Research Educational Opportunities
The NUCATS Institute Good Clinical Practice and Research Staff Training programs include a full complement of instructor-led and online educational opportunities for clinical research professionals at various stages in their professional development. Learn about upcoming clinical research educational opportunities>

Infrastructure

Chicago Biomedical Consortium Announces $3 Million Infrastructure Initiative
The Chicago Biomedical Consortium (CBC), a partnership between the University of Chicago, Northwestern University and the University of Illinois at Chicago, is announcing a $3 million Infrastructure Initiative. The Initiative builds upon the
Open Access Initiative that gives CBC researchers access to core facility instrumentation and expertise at each other’s institutions with no additional "outsider" cost. The Infrastructure Initiative provides each university $1 million to acquire novel, state-of-the-art scientific instrumentation to be shared under the Open Access Initiative. Learn more about the three Infrastructure Initiative projects receiving CBC funding.

Unified Culture

Chicagoland Chapter of ACRP Looks Back on a Successful First Year
To say the past year has been a busy one for the Chicagoland Chapter of the Association of Clinical Research Professionals (ACRP) would be an understatement. In the span of eight months, the Chicagoland Chapter of ACRP organized a planning committee, established themselves as an official chapter, and held two events that reached approximately 150 clinical research professionals. Leaders and members of the Chicagoland Chapter of ACRP include staff from the NUCATS Institute, Northwestern University, Northwestern Memorial Hospital, University of Chicago, University of Illinois at Chicago, Rush University, Advocate Healthcare, ICON, GE Healthcare, Abbott Laboratories, Investigator Support Services, inVentiv Health Clinical and more. Read Article and learn about the Chapter’s 2014 efforts>

Call for Abstracts: Translational Science 2015 - Due January 20
Translational Science 2015, sponsored by the Association for Clinical and Translational Science (ACTS) and the American Federation for Medical Research (AFMR), will be held from April 16-18, 2015 at the Omni Shoreham Hotel in Washington, D.C. This meeting is now accepting abstracts for consideration from all levels of training. You must register to attend Translational Science 2015 in order to have your poster accepted. Registration for the meeting will open in the next few weeks. Submit your presentation abstract to the Translational Science 2015 Abstract Submission site by Tuesday, January 20, 2015>

Funding Opportunities

The Auxiliary Board of Northwestern Memorial Hospital Fiscal Year 2016 Grant Initiative
Applications Due: December 29, 2014
Funding Level: One Grant of $50,000 for FY16
The Auxiliary Board Grant Initiative is seeking proposals that enhance patient care through clinical care innovations, translational clinical research studies and creative program initiatives. Priority will be given to proposals that advance Northwestern Medicine®’s Delivering Exceptional Care, Advancing Medical Science and Knowledge, and Developing People, Culture and Resources strategic goals. Learn more>
NUCATS Voucher and Pilot Programs
The NUCATS Voucher and Pilot Programs are a new funding mechanism designed to accelerate research by providing rapid, targeted funding to address small, but critical gaps in clinical and translational research work that is otherwise at present not funded by other sources. Learn more>

NU-Interdisciplinary Program 1-2-3
The Office for Research and the Deans are pleased to announce a new seed-funding platform to cultivate investigator-initiated visionary "Big Ideas". The NU-Interdisciplinary Program 1-2-3 was developed in response to gaps and needs that were identified as possibly hindering the pursuit of bold research at Northwestern University. The program consists of 3-tiers of non-sequential, seed funds that will support Ideas (I1), Innovative Initiatives (I2) and Innovative Initiatives Incubator (I3) by providing funding and guidance to bring together new teams and shepherd "Big Science" from the inception of an idea to securing external funding and possible maturation into a University Research Center, focusing on interdisciplinarity, innovation, and societal impact. In addition to funds, the program will provide project management, assistance in finding funding opportunities, proposal development and Team Science guidance. For more information please contact Fruma Yehiely, Director, Office of Research Development (yehiely@northwestern.edu). Learn more>

Save the Date

December 3 - eNOTIS New Features Demo Session

December 4 - University of Chicago Institute for Translational Medicine (ITM) Pathobiology of Disease Seminar Series

December 9 - Taking Responsibility for Responsible Conduct of Research

December 9 - NUCATS CECD Office Hours on Evanston Campus

December 11 - University of Chicago Institute for Translational Medicine (ITM) Pathobiology of Disease Seminar Series

December 15 - Application Deadline: Mixed Methods Research Training in Health Sciences

January 5 - First Mondays Faculty Development 2014/2015 Seminar Series

January 7 - eNOTIS New Features Demo Session

January 8, 15, 22, 29 and February 5 - CRC Basic Training Online

January 9 - Nomination Deadline: Top 10 Clinical Research Achievement Awards

January 13 - NUCATS CECD Office Hours on Evanston Campus

January 20 - Abstract Deadline: Translational Science 2015

January 23 - Center for Community Health Manuscript Writing Retreat

January 28 - eNOTIS Basics & Policy Training Update

February 6, 13, and 20 - University of Illinois at Chicago Center for Clinical and Translational Science (CCTS) Community Engaged Research Boot Camp
Do you want to know what research studies are actively recruiting participants at Northwestern? The NUCATS Recruitment Tool can help! It contains a comprehensive list of research studies currently recruiting at Northwestern. The studies listed will either have a web screener that contains a series of questions to help determine eligibility or you can use the listed contact information to get in touch with the appropriate person. Familiarize yourself with the Recruitment Tool at an upcoming new user session.

Search the list of recruiting studies at Northwestern.

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