Director's Message

The NUCATS Institute congratulates and celebrates Michael Fleming, MD/MPH, professor in Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences and director of Education and Career Development Center in NUCATS, for receiving the 2015 Association for Clinical and Translational Science Distinguished Educator Award. Dr. Fleming has committed his career to training, educating and mentoring new investigators in clinical and translational science and has made significant contributions at the local and national level to improving the quality of mentorship and education of new investigators. His career achievements are featured in this month’s Director’s Message.

Highlights include:

- Multi-site randomized controlled trial to test the effectiveness of a formal mentor training curriculum
- Feinberg School of Medicine Mentor Development Academy
- M.S. in Clinical Investigation and M.S. in Regulatory Compliance Programs

Read Director's Message>
Workforce Development

NUCATS Graduate KL2 Scholar Selected as 2015 Associate Scientific Advisor for Science Translational Medicine Journal

Congratulations to Anne Marie Singh, MD, in Pediatrics and Medicine-Allergy and Immunology, for being selected as a 2015 Associate Scientific Advisor for the Science Translational Medicine journal. Dr. Singh was selected as the Northwestern University nominee because of her outstanding commitment to developing an independent pediatric translational research program, securing optimal resources for the development of this program, and breaking new ground working in collaboration with the Departments of Pediatrics and Medicine. She has also made significant contributions with potential implications in the development of atopic disease in young children. Read Article>

Investigator Spotlight: MSCI Student - Sarika Jain, MD

NUCATS highlights Master of Science in Clinical Investigation (MSCI) student, Sarika Jain, MD, assistant professor in Medicine-Hematology/Oncology. In her interview, Dr. Jain discusses how her decision to pursue a career in academic oncology with sub-specialization in breast cancer was based on her strong interest in finding ground-breaking treatments to potentially cure metastatic disease. She hopes to join the investigators that came before her in discovering new standards of care for this population. Read Interview>

Consult with NUCATS Center for Education and Career Development on the Evanston Campus

May Clinical Research Educational Opportunities

Collaboration/Engagement

Collaboration to Advance LGBT Health and Wellness Receives ARCC 2015 Partnership Award

The Alliance for Research in Chicagoland Communities (ARCC) is pleased to recognize the 2015 Community-Engaged Research Partnership Award winner. This long standing exemplary partnership between the Center on Halsted and the IMPACT LGBT Health & Development Program at Northwestern University collaborates on research...
projects aimed at improving lesbian, gay and bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) health. The collaboration has resulted in interventions proven to reduce HIV risk behaviors such as building out a co-branded research space at the Center, a groundbreaking LGBT psychology training program, and an annual LGBT research conference. The co-branded research space was featured in the Chicago Tribune and the award was highlighted at Feinberg School of Medicine’s annual Lewis Landsberg Research Day and ARCC’s annual Town Hall.

In this interview, director of the IMPACT program, Brian Mustanski, PhD, associate professor in Medical Social Sciences, discusses how ARCC supported their partnership and how the award impacts their group’s work. He also provides advice for newly formed community and academic research teams. Read Interview>

Pediatric Practice Research Group Announces New Director

The Pediatric Practice Research Group (PPRG) is proud to announce its new director, Adolfo Ariza, MD, research associate professor in Pediatrics. Dr. Ariza’s research focuses on promoting healthy lifestyles in early life with an expertise in nutrition and nutrition evaluation. He managed the development of software systems to be used in evaluation and intervention aspects of studies that focus on health promotion in primary care. In addition, he participated in the development of tools and methods to improve obesity care in primary care practices. Dr. Ariza plans to implement periodic surveys of PPRG clinicians to identify issues important to community clinicians. Learn more about the PPRG>

NUCATS Voucher Utilized to Improve South Asian Health Collaboratively with Community Stakeholders

The NUCATS Institute awarded a voucher grant to Namratha Kandula, MD/MPH, assistant professor in Medicine-General Internal Medicine and Geriatrics, and her research team to work collaboratively with the Skokie Health Department, South Asian American Policy & Research Institute, and University of Illinois at Chicago’s Asians with Disabilities Outreach Project Think-Tank (ADOPT) on improving South Asian health. The award was utilized to convene community meetings to collect data on social determinants and health-related programming and to disseminate the results from Dr.
Kandula’s South Asian Healthy Lifestyle Initiative (SAHELI) study. Dr. Kandula was also the academic co-PI on an Alliance for Research in Chicagoland Communities (ARCC) seed grant focusing on South Asian health and SAHELI and was honored as the 2013 ARCC Partnership Award. Read Article>

Chicagoland Community, Faith-Based and Public Organizations and Northwestern University Participate in ARCC Town Hall

Over 100 Chicagoland community, faith-based and public organizations and Northwestern University faculty, staff and fellows participated in the Alliance for Research in Chicagoland Communities (ARCC) 5th Annual Town Hall on April 22, 2015.

Participants provided input on ARCC's future directions and activities. Topics discussed included capacity building, seed grants, community engagement in clinical trials and more. A summary of the participant input will be posted shortly. Access Town Hall materials and photos.>

Integration

Northwestern University and Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children’s Hospital of Chicago Announce Establishment of Joint IRB Panel

Are you conducting research involving faculty at Northwestern University and Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago? Are you conducting a research study at Lurie Children's Hospital that is funded through Northwestern? If yes, you will now submit your studies to a “joint” Institutional Review Board (IRB) panel for study reviews. The joint panel has members from both institutions and the community and operates under a designated Lurie Children's Hospital IRB (Lurie Children’s Panel 2) through an IRB authorization agreement with NU. An IRB Brown Bag session has been scheduled for Wednesday, July 29th at noon in Hughes Auditorium of the Robert H. Lurie Medical Center for both Lurie Children's Hospital and Northwestern study coordinators to provide additional details and answer questions regarding the joint panel process. For specific guidance on submitting your project or to obtain access to the electronic IRB systems, please contact: Lurie Children's Hospital Office of Research and Compliance or Northwestern University's IRB Office.

Call for Applications: INVO Office Hours with SBIR Consultant

Due Date: May 10, 2015

The Innovation and New Ventures Office (INVO) is piloting a new opportunity to help startups based on Northwestern technologies succeed at winning Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) awards. Their first pilot program will take place in June 2015 on the Chicago campus and is open to companies submitting SBIR/STTR applications to the National Institutes of Health for the September 2015 deadline. INVO has contracted an SBIR expert to provide one hour consulting sessions to a select number of applicants. To be considered for this opportunity, please complete the application and email it to Jeff Coney by May
Methods/Processes

First Place Winner in Clinical Research Category at Lewis Landsberg Research Day Poster Competition Utilized NUCATS Services and Resources

Congratulations to Beatrice Nardone MD/PhD, research assistant professor in Dermatology and her research team for winning first place in the Clinical Research Science category at the Eleventh Annual Lewis Landsberg Research Day campus-wide poster competition. The project, "Risk of Melanoma and Non-melanoma Skin Cancer After Exposure to Antihypertensive Drugs: A Report from the RADAR (Research on Adverse Drug Events and Reports) Project" was presented by Sara Majewski, research assistant in Dermatology in conjunction with the RADAR project under the direction of Dennis P. West, PhD, Vincent W. Foglia Family Research Professor of Dermatology. The retrospective study utilized the Northwestern Medicine® Enterprise Data Warehouse (NMEDW) to extract electronic medical record (EMR) data and utilized the Biostatistics Collaboration Center (BCC) to run biostatistical analyses of the data. Both the NMEDW and BCC are housed in the NUCATS Institute. Read Article to learn what the data analyses revealed>

Galter Health Sciences Library to Display Places & Spaces: Mapping Science Exhibit May 14 - September 23, 2015

Are you interested in seeing science from above? Curious to see what impact one single person or invention can have? Keen to find pockets of innovation? Desperate for better tools to manage the information flood? Or are you simply fascinated by maps? Then plan to visit the Places & Spaces: Mapping Science exhibit, which will be on display at Galter Health Sciences Library from May 14 to September 23, 2015. The exhibit aims to demonstrate the power of maps to navigate and make sense of physical places and abstract topic spaces. Katy Börner, exhibit director and founding director of the Cyberinfrastructure for Network Science Center at Indiana University, will open the exhibit on May 14th from 3-5pm with a special lecture, gallery, and reception at Galter Library. The short film Humanexus will be screened in conjunction with the exhibit. Learn more>

Galter Library Selected to Host Medical Library Association's Webinar on Data Management

On April 22, 2015, Galter Health Sciences Library hosted the Medical Library Association's (MLA) webinar, "The Diversity of Data Management: Practical Approaches for Health Sciences Librarianship." Galter Library received support from the National Network of Libraries of Medicine (NN/LM) Greater Midwest Region (GMR) to host the
webinar after they submitted a competitive application. Attendees of the webinar included representatives from Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago, Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago, Illinois University, DePaul University, Northern Illinois University and more. The executive director of MLA, Kevin Baliozian, MBA, also joined the webcast to see the event from an attendee's point of view. Review manual of information covered.

Chicagoland CTSA Shared Resources

The Chicagoland Clinical and Translational Science Award (CTSA) Institutes, Northwestern University, University of Chicago and University of Illinois at Chicago, are committed to facilitating greater integration and coordination across the institutes to provide seamless access to all relevant resources for translational researchers. In May 2015, investigators and research staff at Chicagoland CTSA affiliates have access to:

University of Chicago Institute for Translational Medicine (ITM)
May 6, 13, 20, and 27 - Outcomes Research Workshop
May 7, 14, 21, 28, and 29 - Pathobiology of Disease Seminars
May 11 - Industry Technical Roles: Supporting Scientific Products and Applications
May 19 - Careers in Higher Ed Administration for PhDs

University of Illinois at Chicago Center for Clinical and Translational Science (CCTS)
July 14-16 - 3-Day Summer Program in Clinical and Translational Research Methods

For a full listing of Chicagoland CTSA shared resources and services, please click here.

Funding Opportunities

John and Lillian Mathews Regenerative Medicine Endowment Grants Initiative
Applications Due: June 1, 2015
Funding Levels: 2-4 awards up to $10,000-$30,000 each
The John and Lillian Mathews Regenerative Medicine Endowment funds are to be used to support clinical-grade product manufacturing that require the Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP) compliant laboratories of the Mathews Center for Cellular Therapy (MCCT) GMP facilities. The products can be biologic, cellular, or even device in nature. Learn more>

Alvin H. Baum Clinical Simulation Research Grants Initiative
Applications Due: June 5, 2015 by 5pm
Funding Levels: One-year grants up to $50,000 each
These awards are focused on providing funding to support original and innovative research opportunities that are scientifically promising or have potential to advance Northwestern Medicine strategies. Ideal simulation proposals should challenge existing paradigms of clinical practice, explore innovative hypothesis, or address critical barriers to reliable healthcare. Proposals should also develop or employ novel concepts, approaches, methodologies, tools, or technologies for an area. Learn more>
Alvin H. Baum Simulation Faculty Fellowship
Applications Due: June 5, 2015 by 5pm
Funding Levels: $50,000 over two years
The Baum Family Foundation Faculty Fellowship will provide funding to support faculty salary and simulation lab expenses for a faculty member who commits to advance simulation-based education at Northwestern. Learn more>

Vilcek Prizes for Creative Promise in Biomedical Science
Applications Due: June 15, 2015
Funding Levels: $50,000
The Vilcek Foundation will award three prizes of $50,000 each to young foreign-born biomedical scientists who demonstrate outstanding early achievement. Eligible work may be in basic, applied, and/or translational biomedical science. Learn more>

NU-Interdisciplinary Program 1-2-3

Save the Date

May 6 - Guidance on Policy & Priority Areas for Conducting Health Research with Chicago Public Schools
May 6 - NITRO Study Tracker (formerly eNOTIS) New Features Demo Session
May 11 - Human Genetics and Genomics for Life Science Professionals
May 14 - REDCap New Project Owner Intro Session
May 15-17 - Computational Social Science Summit
May 19 - Spring Meeting: Community Engaged Academic Research Staff
May 20 - REDCap Office Hours
May 20 - ACRP Clinical Trials Day
May 21 - Faith Based Community Engaged Research Network Meeting
May 27 - NITRO Study Tracker (formerly eNOTIS) Basic & Policy Training Update
May 28-29 - CRC Basic Training Live
May 28 - REDCap New Project Owner Intro Session
June 1 - First Mondays Faculty Development 2014/2015 Seminar Series
June 4, 11, 18, 25 and July 2, 16 - CRC Basic Training Online
June 15-18 - The Michigan Regional Comprehensive Metabolomics Research Core Presents Metabolomics Summer Workshop
June 30 - 2015 Scientific Images Contest Entry Deadline

More Events >
The NUCATS Institute is a member of the Clinical and Translational Science Award (CTSA), an initiative led by the National Institutes of Health (NIH). The Institute is funded, in part, by the National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences (NCATS) of the NIH research grant UL1TR000150. The same research award was previously funded, in part, by National Center for Research Resources (NCRR) of the NIH and recognized as research grant UL1RR025741.