**Director's Message**

*Leah Welty, PhD*, associate professor of Preventive Medicine-Biostatistics and Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, is the new Biostatistics Collaboration Center (BCC) director. In this month's Director's Message, Dr. Welty outlines how she will build on the past successes of the BCC, strengthen and build collaborations, and ensure that the BCC is a key resource for Northwestern's successful and evolving research enterprise.

Highlights include:

- Expansion of the BCC
- BCC’s broad range of expertise
- Research Design and Analysis Methods Program (RAMP)

[Read Director's Message >](#)

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**NUCATS Staff Profile**

**Margarita Chung**
Administrative Director

Meet **Margarita Chung**, administrative director for Galter Health Sciences Library. Margarita supports and manages the day-to-day library operations and administration. She works alongside a great team of librarians and library paraprofessionals under the leadership of the director, **Kristi Holmes, PhD**, associate professor of Preventive Medicine-Health and Biomedical Informatics. Prior to this,
Margarita worked as a business administrator for the NUCATS Institute for eight years from its inception.

Read Interview>

Workforce Development

National Academy of Medicine Elects 80 New Members
The NUCATS Institute congratulates the 80 new members elected into the National Academy of Medicine (NAM), formerly the Institute of Medicine, in October 2015. Members are elected into this prestigious organization based on their contributions to the advancement of medical sciences, health care, and public health. New members include individuals from the National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences (NCATS), Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA), Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine, University of Chicago Medicine, and the American Medical Association.

Read more

Investigator Spotlight: MSCI Student - Ajay Yadlapati, MD
NUCATS highlights Master of Science in Clinical Investigation (MSCI) student Ajay Yadlapati, MD, third-year fellow of the Department of Medicine’s Cardiology Fellowship Program. Dr. Yadlapati's primary research focuses on novel oral anticoagulants (NOACs) in the setting of atrial fibrillation. He chose this area of research because of the lack of clinical data regarding the use of these drugs and to help clinicians have the necessary data to utilize these medications properly.

Read Interview

LOI Deadline Extended for NUCATS TL1 Program
Eligibility Requirements Expanded for NUCATS KL2 Program
Collaboration/Engagement

Stakeholder Spotlight: Erie Family Health Center

Erie Family Health Center provides comprehensive, community-based, health services at 13 health centers to over 57,000 medical and 9,300 dental patients annually. Regardless of a patient’s ability to pay, their mission is to provide accessible, affordable, and high quality health care for those in need.

In this interview, Nivedita (Nita) Mohanty, MD, pediatrician at Erie Family Health Center and assistant professor of Clinical Pediatrics-Community Based Primary Care, discusses her Practice-Based Research Program (PBRP) seed grant focused on bilirubin screening in primary care. She also emphasizes how translational research in community health highlights the challenges and considerations associated with applying basic science findings in unique clinical settings and patient populations.

Read Interview

ARCC Seed Grantees Publish Article on Training Community Leaders on Depressed Latino Adolescents

Rebecca Ford-Paz, PhD, Healthcare Alternative Systems, and Alternatives, Inc. published an article in the Progress in Community Health Partnerships journal that demonstrates how training key members of Latino adolescent's social networks in depression literacy and outreach is a promising approach to preventing depression and suicide in Latino adolescents. Dr. Ford-Paz, assistant professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences and attending clinical child psychologist at Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago, and her community-based participatory research partners are Alliance for Research in Chicagoland Communities (ARCC) seed grantees.

Learn more
CCH Introduces Stakeholder Academic Resource Panel (ShARP)
The Center for Community Health (CCH) is piloting a new studio service, ShARP (Stakeholder-Academic Research Panel), to help principal investigators and partners at any phase of research design, implementation, or dissemination to develop robust and appropriate stakeholder engagement into their research projects.

Read more

Access ARCC’s New Resource on Qualitative Research

Integration

NUCATS Member Awarded NIDA Grant to Improve Lives of Young People at Risk of Acquiring HIV

Congratulations to the team of researchers from Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children’s Hospital of Chicago, Rush University, University of Illinois at Chicago, The University of Chicago, and Howard Brown Health Center for receiving a $3.2 million RO1 grant from the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA). The study will focus on integrating substance use screening and brief intervention into the traditional community-based HIV testing environment for difficult-to-reach, young people at risk of acquiring HIV. Principal investigator, Robert Garofalo, MD/MPH, professor of Pediatrics and Preventive Medicine, is a NUCATS member, co-director of the Gender and Sex Development Program at Lurie Children’s Hospital, and director of the Center for Gender Sexuality and HIV Prevention at Stanley Manne Children’s Research Institute.

Learn more

Methods/Processes

Digital Repository for Scholarly Outputs Now Open

On October 19, 2015, Galter Health Sciences Library launched DigitalHub, a place for Northwestern Medicine faculty and scientists to deposit their research outputs and make them widely available. The goal of this institutional repository is to help the scholarly output of Northwestern Medicine researchers to become more discoverable by the worldwide scholarly community on the Web. Galter Library will also use the repository to increase the awareness of open access content, promote scholarship and the expertise of scientists at Northwestern Medicine, and support community engagement with non-traditional scholarly output. Information on upcoming DigitalHub training workshops will be coming soon.
Galter Health Sciences Library Prepares for Renovation

In late spring 2016, the physical space of Galter Health Sciences Library will begin to transform to meet the information needs of Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine. Renovations include problem-based and team-based learning rooms and 24-hour study spaces for students that will include furniture based on their needs such as standing desks and semi-enclosed study pods. Galter Library provides the Feinberg community with support services and expertise in data and bioinformatics, systematic reviews, research impact, and clinical information.

Read more

Informatics

Center for Data Science and Informatics will Further Efforts to Convert Big Data into Big Knowledge at Northwestern Medicine

The Center for Data Science and Informatics (CDSI), housed within NUCATS, was featured in the Summer 2015 issue of Northwestern Medicine Magazine. The story highlights NUCATS' director and deputy director, Donald Lloyd-Jones, MD/ScM and Justin Starren, MD/PhD, and showcases how the Institute's software tools, with the help of Galter Health Sciences Library's statistical and bioinformatics resources, played integral roles in advancing Northwestern Medicine's research.

Read more

Chicagoland CTSA Shared Resources

Investigators and research staff at Chicagoland CTSA affiliates have access to the following upcoming opportunities:

University of Chicago Institute for Translational Medicine (ITM)

November 5 - Pathobiology of Disease Seminar Series: Tales from the Trenches of Connectomics
November 12 - Pathobiology of Disease Seminar Series: The Role of Microbiota in Retroviral Transmission and Leukemogenesis

University of Illinois at Chicago Center for Clinical and Translational Science (CCTS)

November 12 - Health Outcomes Seminar: Economics and Obesity - The Skinny on Fat
Funding Opportunities

CBC High Throughput Screening Supplement Grant Program
Applications Due: November 11, 2015
Funding Level: Up to $20,000 can be requested from CBC
The Chicago Biomedical Consortium (CBC) is offering this opportunity to help fund the discovery of innovative small-molecule probes and "hits". The intent of this program is to support pilot projects, which are focused on biomedically-relevant targets and which will be conducted at a High Throughput Screening (HTS) core facility located at one of the CBC universities.

Learn more

BRAIN Public-Private Partnership Program: Industry Partnerships to Facilitate Early Access to Neuromodulation and Recording Devices for Human Clinical Studies
Pre-Applications Due: November 18, 2015
Full Applications Due: April 26, 2016
The goal of BRAIN Initiative Public-Private Partnership Program is to facilitate partnerships between clinical investigators and manufacturers of the latest-generation implantable devices for human clinical research. As part of the BRAIN Initiative, NIH is interested in reducing barriers to negotiating such partnerships and ensuring that new clinical studies leverage manufacturers' existing data. For this program, NIH has entered into two agreements with a number of manufacturers to make available next generation devices that can stimulate and/or record from the central nervous system and have sufficient data to enable new Non-Significant Risk or Investigational Device Exemption without the need for significant additional testing.

Learn more
Additional BRAIN Initiative funding announcements

Save the Date

November 5 - IPHAM Seminar: Integrated Community-Clinical Linkage Models to Advance Cardiovascular Disease and Diabetes Prevention and Management for Asian Americans

November 5 - Proposed Changes to Federal Regulations for Human Research (Common Rule)

November 5 - NUIT Tech Talk: Picture This! Data Visualization Services

November 5-6 - CRC Basic Training Live

November 10: NCATS Strategic Planning Town Hall Webinar
November 10: NCATS Funding for Small Businesses Webinar

November 12 - REDCap New Project Owner Intro Session

November 16 - First Mondays Faculty Development Seminar

November 18 - REDCap Office Hours

November 19 - Faith Based Community Engaged Research Network Meeting

November 26 - REDCap New Project OwnerIntro Session

More events

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**NUCATS Minute**

Did you know...

As of January 1, 2016, employee tuition benefits per calendar year will increase from $10,000 to $12,000. The NUCATS Institute sponsors two graduate programs that recognize this benefit. The M.S. in Clinical Investigation (MSCI) program trains junior faculty to become the next generation of clinical and translational scientists. The M.S. in Regulatory Science program prepares research staff to become leaders in healthcare compliance, clinical research, or quality and regulatory science. The spring quarter application deadline for both programs is January 15, 2016.

Leverage NU’s tuition benefit to invest in your education and career.

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**Other News**

**NCATS Seeks Input for Strategic Plan**

The [National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences (NCATS)](https://www.ncats.nih.gov) at the National Institutes of Health is seeking input on the scientific and operational challenges, opportunities, and research needs in translational science to help set the Center’s strategic priorities and inform the development of a five-year strategic plan. [The deadline for comments is January 8, 2016.](https://www.ncats.nih.gov/announcements/2015ncatsstrategicplanning) In addition, NCATS invites stakeholders and other interested parties to participate in their "town hall"-style webinars.

Provide feedback
Register for November 10, 2015 webinar

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