

# UMass Center for Clinical and Translational Science Newsletter

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Article 1

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## UMCCTS Newsletter, March 2015

UMass Center for Clinical and Translational Science

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# University of Massachusetts Center for Clinical and Translational Science

March 2015

Volume 1, Issue 2

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## Congratulation to the UMCCTS/MassBiologics of UMMS Next Hundred Million Pilot Projects Awardees for 2014

In September 2014, a funding announcement for the Next Hundred Million Pilot Project (NHMPP) was issued by the UMass Center for Clinical and Translational Science and MassBiologics of UMMS. The NHMPP award serves as a dedicated pool of funding to spur innovative collaborations between UMMS, MassBiologics of UMMS, and investigators across the UMass System with the goal of enhancing the translation of discoveries for clinical use.

We congratulate the 3 recipients of the NHMPP 2014 award:

- (UMMS) Craig Ceol, PhD, Dale Greiner, PhD, Giles Whalen, MD, (MassBiologics) Yang Wang, MD, PhD

#### ***GDF-6 Blocking Antibodies as Anti-Cancer Therapeutics***

- (UMMS) Michael Brehm, PhD, Dale Greiner, PhD, Jeremy Luban, MD, PhD, (MassBiologics) Lisa Cavacini, PhD, and Colby Souders, PhD

#### ***Human Monoclonal Antibodies to Block RhD Alloimmunization during Pregnancy***

- (UMMS) Ann Moormann, PhD, MPH, Douglas Golenbock, MD, (MassBiologics) Colby Souders, PhD, and William Thomas, Jr., PhD

#### ***Human Monoclonal Antibodies to Plasmodium falciparum Circumsporozoite Protein for Transient Passive Protection of Travelers to Endemic Areas***

For all UMCCTS funding opportunities, please go to our website at <http://www.umassmed.edu/ccts/funding>



accel

academic consortium combating ebola in liberia

## #TackleEbola

Funding Provided by Paul G. Allen Foundation

### *Critical Need to Provide Healthcare Workers and Educators in Liberia in Wake of Ebola*

The University of Massachusetts Medical School and its academic partners, known as the **Academic Consortium Combating Ebola (ACCEL)**, are initiating new programs to assist with health systems strengthening in Liberia, a country that has been severely affected by the Ebola virus epidemic. As the epidemic is waning in Liberia, there is a critical need to re-establish basic healthcare and reopen medical training programs. Sadly, many healthcare workers and faculty members have died from contracting the Ebola virus. For this reason, **there is a critical need to provide healthcare workers** to fill many gaps in staffing healthcare facilities and for faculty to teach in the medical school and in residency training programs.

ACCEL has partnered with the AM Dogliotti Medical School, the Liberian Post Graduate Medical College and the Liberian Ministry of Health to design programs to assist in filling these gaps. We are looking for many types of physicians to help staff hospitals throughout the country. We also seek preclinical and clinical faculty members to provide clinical training to Liberian trainees.

ACCEL has received generous funding support from the **Paul Allen Tackle Ebola campaign** to support salary, airfare, and in-country costs for program participants. Lengths of deployment will vary according to specialty, but 4 weeks or longer is desirable for most deployments. Faculty must be BC/BE in their specialty area.

**For more information, please visit the website at:** <http://www.umassmed.edu/ebola/>

**If interested in applying**, please send CV and letter of interest, including potential dates of deployment to:

**Salimata Bangoura**

ACCEL Project Director

[Salimata.Bangoura@umassmed.edu](mailto:Salimata.Bangoura@umassmed.edu)

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## *The Next Best Thing to a Cure*

Inspiring story from *Time* magazine regarding initial clinical trials research by Dr. Ed Damiano for a portable, wearable, bionic pancreas to control blood glucose levels for Type 1 Diabetic patients.

**Read the entire *Time* article at:** <http://time.com/3687291/the-next-best-thing-to-a-cure-for-diabetes/>

The University of Massachusetts Medical School is one of four clinical trials sites in the U.S. who will participate in conducting human research of the bionic pancreas.

"Nowadays you would imagine that since we have continuous glucose monitors and insulin pumps, we should be able to take a computer and have the two talk to one another," said Dr. David Harlan, the *William and Doris Krupp Professor in Medicine*, professor of medicine and co-director of the Diabetes Center of Excellence. "So instead of having the individual do the thinking, an algorithm could do it. That's the concept of the bionic pancreas." – **umassmedNOW November 19, 2013**

<http://www.umassmed.edu/news/news-archives/2013/11/umms-to-test-bionic-pancreas/>

**See MBI Seminar “Diabetes: Our Health, Our Care, Our Future” on April 1, 2015 on page 6 of this newsletter.**

**Publication in the New England Journal of Medicine:**

Russell SJ, El-Khatib FH, Sinha M, Magyar KL, McKeon K, Goergen LG, Balliro C, Hillard MA, Nathan DM, **Damiano ER**. Outpatient glycemic control with a bionic pancreas in type 1 diabetes. N Engl J Med. 2014 Jul 24; 371(4): 313-25. PMID: 24931572; PMCID: PMC4183762.

<http://www.nejm.org/doi/pdf/10.1056/NEJMoa1314474>

**Profile on Dr. Ed Damiano**, Associate Professor, Biomedical Engineer at Boston University:

<http://www.bu.edu/bme/people/primary/damiano/>



**University of Massachusetts Lowell**  
**Department of Clinical Laboratory and Nutritional Sciences**  
**CLNS Colloquium**



**Sherman J. Bigornia, PhD**

Post Doctoral Fellow

Department of Clinical Lab and Nutritional Sciences

University of Massachusetts Lowell

<http://www.uml.edu/health-sciences/CLNS/>

***“Erythrocyte Fatty Acid Composition and Associations with Depressive Symptomatology and Cardiovascular Disease Risk: The Boston Puerto Rican Health Study”***

**Thursday, March 12, 2015**

**12:30 – 1:30 pm**

**O’Leary Library, Room #222**

**South Campus, University of Massachusetts Lowell**

Host: Mahdi Garelnabi, PhD, MSc, FAHA [Mahdi\\_Garelnabi@uml.edu](mailto:Mahdi_Garelnabi@uml.edu)

<http://faculty.uml.edu/mgarelnabi/index.html>



## The Bioinformatics Core invites you to: An Informal Discussion



### **Kristian Andersen, PhD**

Post Doc, Host-Pathogen Evolution

Harvard University and Broad Institute

<https://www.broadinstitute.org/bios/kristian-andersen>

### ***“Genomic Insights into Ebola and Lassa Hemorrhagic Fevers”***

**Friday, March 13, 2015**

**11:00 AM**

**6<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room 2072**

**Albert Sherman Center**

**University of Massachusetts Medical School**

Host: Manuel Garber, PhD, Director, Bioinformatics Core [Manuel.Garber@umassmed.edu](mailto:Manuel.Garber@umassmed.edu)

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### **UMCCTS “R-Club”**

## **Basic Elements and Process for a Successful Grant Application**

**Wednesday, March 18, 2015**

**12:30 pm**

**Conference Room AS6-2072**

**Albert Sherman Center**

**University of Massachusetts Medical School**

On behalf of Drs. Rob Goldberg and Beth McCormick, we are pleased to announce the formation of a K to R Club at UMMS. This seminar/working group is available for all current and past K awardees and junior faculty at the institution who are contemplating the submission of an R type grant (e.g., R01, R03, R21) to the NIH during the coming academic year. This course will meet on a regular monthly basis on the 3rd Wednesday of each month, beginning on October 15, 2014, and will run through mid-July. We will discuss all the basic elements of a grant application and will conduct a series of mock grant reviews during the year so that applicants will obtain a better appreciation for the peer review process and what makes for a

successful grant application. This working group is intended to enhance, and not replace, mentoring by peers and senior faculty. Each of the monthly sessions will be conducted in an interactive format so that attendees can ask questions of each other and the course leaders to facilitate their proposal development.

**Interested in joining or questions?** Please contact the Program Leaders: **Beth McCormick, PhD** [beth.mccormick@umassmed.edu](mailto:beth.mccormick@umassmed.edu) and **Robert J. Goldberg, PhD** [Robert.goldberg@umassmed.edu](mailto:Robert.goldberg@umassmed.edu)  
<http://www.umassmed.edu/ccts/education/r-club/>



## University of Massachusetts Lowell

### Department of Clinical Laboratory and Nutritional Sciences

### CLNS Colloquium



#### **Lisa Chasan-Taber, PhD**

Professor of Epidemiology  
School of Public Health and Health Sciences  
University of Massachusetts Amherst

[http://people.umass.edu/lisact/Dr.\\_Lisa\\_Chasan-Taber/Welcome.html](http://people.umass.edu/lisact/Dr._Lisa_Chasan-Taber/Welcome.html)

***"It's Never too Early: Diabetes Prevention in Pregnancy"***

**Thursday, March 26, 2015**

**12:30 – 1:30 pm**

**O'Leary Library, Room #222**

**South Campus, University of Massachusetts Lowell**



## Massachusetts Medical Device Development Center

### 2015 M2D2 New Venture Competition Showcase

**Wednesday, April 1, 2015**

**5:00 – 9:00 pm**

**University of Massachusetts Lowell**

**220 Pawtucket Street**

**Moloney Hall, University Crossing, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor**

**Lowell, MA 01854**


This event will feature presentations and posters by the Medical Device start-up companies and inventors, featuring new medical device design inventions that have been submitted to the 2015 M2D2 New Venture

Competition. The presenting finalists will compete for a chance to win a total of \$100,000 in services which include: Product Development, Business Development, Medical Development and laboratory space from M2D2, legal services from Mintz Levin and services from Smith & Nephew, Boston Scientific and Omni Components. Come see the new medical device ventures that will be showcased!

For complete details: <http://www.uml.edu/Research/Centers/M2D2/2015-NVC-Showcase.aspx>

To Register please go to:

<https://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/eventReg?oeidk=a07ealzcmx799a6775b&oseq=&c=&ch>



**MBI**  
MASSACHUSETTS BIOMEDICAL INITIATIVES

**HEALTH & LIFE SCIENCE  
SPEAKER SERIES**

**BRM**  
Biomedical Research Models  
Preclinical Research & Drug Development Solutions

Giving you the opportunity to hear from some of the most distinguished experts  
in the Health & Life Sciences community while networking with colleagues.

**Diabetes** | Our Health, Our Care,  
Our Future

How do we prevent, treat, and cure  
Diabetes in order to improve  
the health and lives of people  
affected by this disease?

**PRESENTORS:**

<b>Dennis Guberski, M.S.</b> Founder, President & CEO Biomedical Research Models Inc.	<b>Thomas R. Coleman Ph.D.</b> Director, Office of Technology Transfer Feinstein Institute for Medical Research
<b>Dale L. Greiner, Ph.D.</b> Professor, Program in Molecular Medicine Co-Director, Diabetes Center of Excellence UMass Medical School	<b>David Harlan M.D.</b> Chief, Diabetes Division, Department of Medicine, Co-Director, Diabetes Center of Excellence UMass Medical School

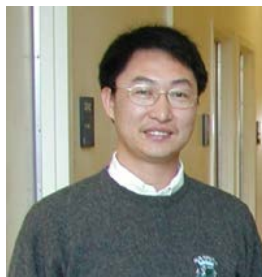
**Thursday, April 1, 2015, 5:30 p.m.**  
**MBI, Gateway Park Amphitheatre**  
**60 Prescott St, Worcester, Massachusetts**

(Reception to follow)

RSVP: [jcocaine@massbiomed.org](mailto:jcocaine@massbiomed.org)  
Parking available on the street or adjacent visitor parking lot(s)



University of Massachusetts Lowell  
Department of Clinical Laboratory and Nutritional Sciences  
CLNS Colloquium



**Maolin Guo, PhD**

Professor, Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry  
Co-Director, Biomedical Engineering and Biotechnology Program  
Director, UMass Cranberry Health Research Center  
University of Massachusetts Dartmouth

<http://www.umassd.edu/cas/chemistry/facultyampstaff/maolinguo/>

***"TBA"***

**Thursday, April 2, 2015**

**12:30 – 1:30 pm**

**O'Leary Library, Room #222**

**South Campus, University of Massachusetts Lowell**

Host: Mahdi Garelnabi, PhD, MSc, FAHA [Mahdi\\_Garelnabi@uml.edu](mailto:Mahdi_Garelnabi@uml.edu)

<http://faculty.uml.edu/mgarelnabi/index.html>



University of Massachusetts Lowell  
Department of Clinical Laboratory and Nutritional Sciences  
CLNS Colloquium



**Joel Tickner, PhD**

Associate Professor  
Department of Community Health and Sustainability  
University of Massachusetts Lowell

<http://www.uml.edu/Health-Sciences/CHS/faculty/tickner-joel.aspx>

***"Building the Scientific Field of Chemical Alternatives Assessment"***

**Thursday, April 9, 2015**

**12:30 – 1:30 pm**

**O'Leary Library, Room #222**

**South Campus, University of Massachusetts Lowell**



## The Bioinformatics Core invites you to: An Informal Discussion



### **Wouter Meuleman, PhD**

Post Doc, Computational Biology  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/woutermeuleman>

### ***"Analysis and Visualization of Hundreds of Epigenomes"***

**Friday, April 10, 2015**

**11:00 AM**

**6<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room 2072**

**Albert Sherman Center**

**University of Massachusetts Medical School**



**PROGRAM IN MOLECULAR MEDICINE**

## **University of Massachusetts Medical School**

**Program in Molecular Medicine  
In-House Seminar Series**



### **Roger J. Davis, PhD**

Howard Hughes Medical Institute Investigator  
H. Arthur Smith Chair in Cancer Research  
Professor, Program in Molecular Medicine  
University of Massachusetts Medical School

<http://profiles.umassmed.edu/Profiles/display/132098>

### ***"Metabolic Stress Signaling by JNK"***

**Monday, April 13, 2015**

**12:00 – 1:00 pm**

**Biotech II, 373 Plantation Street**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Seminar Room**

**University of Massachusetts Medical School**

Host: Michael Czech, PhD, Chair and Professor, Program in Molecular Medicine



## University of Massachusetts Lowell Department of Clinical Laboratory and Nutritional Sciences CLNS Colloquium



### **Elazer R. Edelman, MD, PhD**

Thomas D. and Virginia W. Cabot Professor of Health Sciences and Technology at MIT, Professor of Medicine at Harvard Medical School, and Senior Attending Physician in the Coronary Care Unit at the Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston

<http://edelmanlab.mit.edu/elazer-edelman>

### ***"Endothelial Control of Vascular and Cancer Biology"***

**Thursday, April 16, 2015**

**12:30 – 1:30 pm**

**O'Leary Library, Room #222**

**South Campus, UMass Lowell**



## **Announcing...Zoobiquity Boston Conference Human and Animal Health in a Changing Global Environment**

**Saturday, April 25, 2015**

**7:50 am – 6:00 pm**

**Boston, MA**

The Zoobiquity Conference Boston is sponsored by Tufts University, including the Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine, the Tufts Clinical Translational Science Institute and the School of Medicine.

Tufts is honored to be joined in hosting this event with colleagues from every medical school in Massachusetts along with MIT Division of Comparative Medicine

These partners include:

- Boston University Clinical Translational Science Institute
- Harvard Catalyst, the Harvard Clinical Translational Science Center
- Harvard Medical School
- University of Massachusetts Center for Clinical and Translational Science

- University of Massachusetts Medical School
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology Division of Comparative Medicine

Non-student Registration now open!

Visit the [registration page](#) for more information.

**Please note student and morning-only registrations will open on March 23<sup>rd</sup>.**

**CONTACT:** [vetceinfo@tufts.edu](mailto:vetceinfo@tufts.edu) or 508-887-4723

**Zoobiquity Website:** <http://zoobiquity.com>

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## National Research Mentoring Network (NRMN) Pilot Projects Request for Applications

The NIH has recently funded a major diversity initiative including the creation of the National Research Mentoring Network (NRMN) to Diversify the Biomedical Workforce. NRMN is a network of biomedical professionals creating opportunities for mentees across career stages to find culturally competent mentors and engage in productive, supportive mentoring relationships. This network is committed to changing the face of the biomedical workforce by increasing the number of underserved, including underrepresented minorities, successfully obtaining NIH grants. NRMN works with mentees from the undergraduate through the junior faculty level and with all mentors committed to a diverse biomedical workforce. For the mentee, NRMN offers: the NRMNet web portal for mentoring, networking, mentor-mentee matching; regional programs for grant writing and other professional development activities; and culturally responsive mentoring. For the mentor, NRMN offers: Regional Train-the-Trainer workshops on culturally responsive mentoring; validated standards for effective mentoring relationships; synchronous and asynchronous online training.

**Applications are being accepted for the NRMN Pilot Projects award program.**

**Letter of Intent due: Friday, March 13, 2015**

**Full Proposals due: May 1, 2015**

**Complete information available at:** <http://nrmnet.net/PilotRFA>



## UMMS Center for Health Equity Intervention Research (CHEIR) Request for Abstracts for Research Projects

UMMS is planning to apply for a 5-year renewal to the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD) to continue the work of the **UMass Center for Health Equity Intervention Research** (CHEIR, 5P60MD00a6912). For more information about CHEIR, please visit [www.cheir.org](http://www.cheir.org)

CHEIR is a multidisciplinary research center housed at the **Department of Quantitative Health Sciences** at the UMass Medical School and is a collaboration of the UMass Worcester and UMass Boston campuses. CHEIR's mission is to develop interventions and strategies that incorporate research, community collaboration and health equity approaches to improve the health of populations and communities most impacted by health disparities.

As part of the renewal process, we will include 2-3 R01-type research studies proposed by UMass faculty in the area of health disparities and health equity. We are seeking brief abstracts to be used for selecting the research studies that will be invited to apply as part of the grant proposal. **Deadline for submission of abstracts is 5:00 pm on Friday, March 27, 2015.**

R01-type research projects selected for inclusion in the CHEIR renewal proposal will have budgets of approximately \$150,000 per year for a 5-year project period. We anticipate selecting 2-3 R01-type projects.

#### **Timeline**

**Deadline for Abstracts: March 27, 2015 at 5:00 pm**

**Notification of Selection: June 30, 2015**

**Earliest Possible Start Date for Selected Projects (pending funding): February, 2017**

**Complete information and the full RFA available at:**

<http://umassmed.edu/qhs/news/2015/February/cheir-releases-request-for-abstracts-for-new-research-projects-related-to-health-disparities/>

**Please contact Chioma Nnaji** in the Department of Quantitative Health Sciences via email [chioma.nnaji@umassmed.edu](mailto:chioma.nnaji@umassmed.edu) for complete abstract submission instructions/details.

**Questions?** Please direct all questions regarding this RFA to Richard McManus, Department of Quantitative Health Sciences, via email at [richard.mcmanus@umassmed.edu](mailto:richard.mcmanus@umassmed.edu)

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## Univeristy of Massachusetts Medical School

### Cardiovascular T32 Request for Trainee Applications

UMass Medical School received its first ever cardiovascular T32 training grant entitled, "**Transdisciplinary Training in Cardiovascular Research**" under the direction and senior leadership of **Drs. Catarina Kiefe**, Professor and Chair, Department of Quantitative Health Sciences, UMMS and **John F. Keaney, Jr.**, Director, Heart and Vascular Center of Excellence and Professor and Chief, Cardiovascular Medicine, UMMS. The program began on August 1, 2014 and represents a wonderful opportunity for the institution to promote the entire spectrum (T0-T2+) of cardiovascular research on the UMMS campus.

**This program is requesting applications from trainees who wish to become part of this exciting new program at the postdoctoral level.**

**Due Date: Monday, March 30, 2015**

**For more information and complete instructions:**

[http://www.umassmed.edu/Global/Cardiovascular%20Medicine/Documents/RFA1%20\\_3\\_.pdf](http://www.umassmed.edu/Global/Cardiovascular%20Medicine/Documents/RFA1%20_3_.pdf)

**UMass Center for Clinical and Translational Science**  
**362 Plantation Street, Ambulatory Care Center, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor**  
**Worcester, MA 01605-0002**

**Website:** <http://www.umassmed.edu/CCTS>

**Email:** [ccts@umassmed.edu](mailto:ccts@umassmed.edu)

**Contact us:** <http://www.umassmed.edu/ccts/contact-us/>

**Sign-up for Membership:** <http://www.umassmed.edu/ccts/ccts-sign-up-for-membership/>

**Please remember to cite the CTSA Grant # UL1TR000161 in all supported journal publications.**  
<http://www.umassmed.edu/ccts/nih-citation-requirements/>