

# RESEARCH CAREER DEVELOPMENT NEWSLETTER

WEBSITE: <http://medschool.umaryland.edu/career>

July 2017

The Research Career Development Program (RCD) offers workshops, classes and seminars in subjects that are critical to an academic research career, including Grant Writing, Publishing Your Research and Identifying Funding Sources for Your Research. In addition, we offer symposia on professional skills development, including Scientific Leadership & Professional Development. To view the workshop calendar, workshop descriptions, funding sources, grant deadlines etc., please visit: <http://medschool.umaryland.edu/career/>.

## Research Skills Workshops

### Maintaining Morale and Succeeding in Research During Difficult Times

Friday July 7  
9:00 – 10:00am

685 W. Baltimore Street, MSTF Building, Room 316

The process of becoming an independent investigator is challenging, requiring investigators to balance numerous competing needs, including the need to publish, obtain funding, have time for research, and more. These challenges increase when the funding rate is low or unpredictable. Early stage faculty often have questions about strategies for getting funded, including when to apply for funding and how many grant opportunities to pursue. The challenges inherent in getting funded are also relevant to getting published, often leading early stage investigators to have questions about how many research projects to pursue, and how to find time to write about their research. The need to balance the multiple facets of an academic research career while also having time for a personal life, can be daunting. Often early stage faculty are uncertain about how to balance competing needs; therefore, *a primary focus of this session is to help identify strategies to manage competing professional demands, while also leaving time for personal interests.*

This session will provide tools for identifying short and long term research and career goals, and will also identify resources and strategies that can help investigators achieve these goals

This session will consist of a half hour talk, followed by a half hour discussion based on participants' interests and concerns. This session will include a maximum of 10 participants, in order to ensure that all participants have the opportunity to discuss their own questions and concerns. **NOTE: breakfast will be provided.**

**Speakers:** Wendy Sanders, MA, Associate Dean, Office for Research Career Development, UMSOM and Stacie Mendoza, Research Support Specialist, Office for Research Career Development, UMSOM

Registration required online at: <http://registrationrcdp.eventbrite.com>

### Identifying Funding Sources for Postdocs

Tuesday, July 18  
9:00 – 10:00am

685 W. Baltimore Street, MSTF Building, Room 316

This interactive workshop, given by **Stacie Mendoza**, *Research Support Specialist*, will assist postdocs in identifying non-NIH sources of funding for their research. Topics will include:

- Comprehensive introduction to various funding resources, including searchable databases and useful websites
- Interactive demonstration using funding databases
- Helpful tips for identifying sources of funding

Registration required online at: <http://registrationrcdp.eventbrite.com>

### Identifying Funding Sources for Faculty

Wednesday, July 19  
9:00 – 10:00am

685 W. Baltimore Street, MSTF Building, Room 316

This interactive workshop, given by **Stacie Mendoza**, *Research Support Specialist*, will assist faculty in identifying non-NIH sources of funding for their research. Topics will include:

- Comprehensive introduction to various funding resources, including searchable databases and useful websites
- Interactive demonstration using funding databases
- Helpful tips for identifying sources of funding

Registration required online at: <http://registrationrcdp.eventbrite.com>

### Funding Success at the National Science Foundation (NSF) Tips for Identifying the Right Funding Opportunity and Applying to the NSF

Tuesday, July 25  
10:00 – 11:00am

621 W. Lombard Street, SMC Campus Center, Room 351

This seminar will focus on grantsmanship and funding opportunities offered by the National Science Foundation (NSF). Major subjects will include: The NSF's mission; Elements of a competitive NSF proposal; Identifying the right NSF funding opportunity; Requirements for specific NSF funding mechanisms; How to apply; and NSF Review Process.

**Guest Speaker:** Edda (Flo) Thiels, PhD, Program Director, Neural Systems Cluster, National Science Foundation

Registration required online at: <http://registrationrcdp.eventbrite.com>

### Maryland Stem Cell Research Fund (MSCRF) Information Session/Breakfast

Wednesday, July 26  
9:00 – 10:30am

621 W. Lombard Street, SMC Campus Center, Room 210

This information session/breakfast will provide an overview of the grant programs offered by the Maryland Stem Cell Research Fund (MSCRF) for human stem cell research in the state of Maryland. This session will be led by **Dan Gincel, PhD**, VP University Partnerships, TEDCO and Executive Director of MSCRF, and **Curt Civin, MD**, Associate Dean for Research, UMSOM and Director of Center for Stem Cell Biology & Regenerative Medicine. The following 2016 MSCRF awardees from UMSOM will share their experiences with applying for MSCRF funding:

- **Ivy E. Dick, PhD**, Assistant Professor, Department of Physiology, UMSOM
- **Michael W. Nestor, PhD**, Co-chair, Neural Stem Cell Working Group, Center for Stem Cell Biology & Regenerative Medicine UMSOM; and Investigator, Program in Neuroscience, The Hussman Institute for Autism, UMB Biopark.

**Target audience:** Researchers including faculty, pre-doctoral students and post-doctoral fellows who wish to conduct basic, translational and/or clinical research in Maryland involving human stem cells and have institutional support are eligible to apply. **Continental breakfast will be provided.**

Registration required online at: <http://registrationrcdp.eventbrite.com>

## Passano Foundation Clinician-Investigator Award for Career Development Information Session/Breakfast

Tuesday, August 1  
9:00 – 10:00am

685 W. Baltimore Street, MSTF Building, 3rd Floor, Room 316

This information session/breakfast will provide an overview of the Passano Foundation Clinician-Investigator Award for Career Development at the UMSOM, including tips for applying, to potential candidates. **Curt Civin, MD**, Associate Dean for Research, UMSOM and Director of Center for Stem Cell Biology & Regenerative Medicine, will give an overview of the award.

This award was created to provide partial salary and fringe benefits for clinician-investigators in the early stages of their faculty appointment (full-time appointment as instructor or assistant professor in a clinical department). This initiative has been developed to address the increasing pressures on young faculty clinician-investigators to expend substantial clinical time and effort in order to generate sufficient funds to support their salaries. The purpose of this award is to help protect the research time and thereby further the acquisition of experience and preliminary results for qualified young UMSOM faculty clinician-investigators during the time that they apply for external career development grant support. **A light breakfast will be provided.**

Registration required online at: <http://registrationrcdp.eventbrite.com>

## Tips for Writing a Competitive Career Development ("K") Award

Tuesday, August 8  
9:00 – 12:00pm

685 W. Baltimore Street, MSTF Building, Room 316

This session provides tips for writing the major sections of an NIH career development ("K") award, including both the Candidate Sections (Candidate Statement, Goals & Objectives and Career Development Plan) as well as the Research Plan (Specific Aims, Significance, Innovation and Approach). A major focus of this workshop is on the criteria reviewers use in assessing NIH K applications, with tips for addressing these. In addition, this session will address the recent NIH changes to the Approach section, called "Rigor and Reproducibility".

This session will also address additional components of an NIH K application, including the mentor letters, letter of institutional support, mandatory training in Responsible Conduct of Research, etc.

*This session is intended for faculty (or senior postdocs) who intend to submit an NIH (or other peer-reviewed) career development award in October. It is **not** an introductory session, but rather is targeted to faculty who have a good sense of the K application and are seeking tips/pointers for polishing their applications prior to submission.*

**Speaker:** Wendy Sanders, MA, Associate Dean, Research Career Development Program

Registration required online at: <http://registrationrcdp.eventbrite.com>

## Tips for Increasing Writing Productivity & Mini Writing Retreat

Tuesday, September 19  
9:00– 11:00am

621 W. Lombard Street, SMC Campus Center, Room 208

Writing is a fundamental part of a scientist's "job", but strategies for writing efficiently are rarely taught. As a result, scientists often struggle with writing, especially with the practical steps of the writing process, such as how to get started. This session begins with ten tips for increasing writing productivity, with a focus on making writing part of your workday. These tips are designed to make writing easier and to help you write more quickly.

One of the most successful strategies for increasing writing productivity is to join a writing accountability group. Participants will learn about different writing accountability group opportunities available to UMB faculty, postdocs and graduate students.

For the last hour of this session, participants will have the opportunity to work on their own scientific writing project in a group setting. While it is not mandatory that participants stay for this hour, it is strongly encouraged, as this provides an opportunity to experience participating in a writing group. A writing consultant will be available for ad-hoc feedback. **A light breakfast will be provided.**

**Target Audience:** UMB Faculty, Postdocs and Graduate Students

### Speakers:

**Wendy Sanders, MA**, Associate Dean, Research Career Development Program, UMSOM

**Stacie Mendoza**, Research Support Specialist, Research Career Development Program, UMSOM

**Isabell May, PhD**, Director, Writing Center, UMB

Registration required online at: <http://registrationrcdp.eventbrite.com>

## Scientific Writing Seminar Series

Tuesday, September 26, October 31 & November 28  
9:00 – 10:00am

660 W. Redwood Street, Howard Hall, Room 450

The Research Career Development Program is pleased to offer a monthly seminar series on Scientific Writing. The purpose of this writing series is to help faculty write clearer and better organized research papers. The series consists of three stand-alone sessions, each of which focuses on an important aspect of scientific writing, listed below.

**Sept 26:** Writing a Systematic Review

**Oct 31:** Tips for Improving Your Scientific Writing, with a Focus on Writing a Research Paper

**Nov 28:** Responding to Reviewers

**NOTE:** These sessions are intended for UMB junior faculty and postdocs. More details on each session will be posted in future newsletters.

Registration required online at: <http://registrationrcdp.eventbrite.com>

## Basic, Clinical and Translational Research Training Opportunities

### Introduction to Clinical and Translational Research Course at UMB

August 7-11, 2017

9:00 – 3:30pm (Monday – Thursday)

\*ending times vary\*

9:00 – 11:30am (Friday)

20 Penn Street, HSF II Auditorium, 1<sup>st</sup> floor

The Department of Epidemiology and Public Health is pleased to sponsor the 16<sup>th</sup> annual Introduction to Clinical and Translational Research Course at UMB. This course is open to all faculty, fellows, residents, students and staff with an interest in clinical and translational research at UMB. **CME credits and other continuing medical education credits will not be offered for this one-week course.** The course is free of charge and only open to those affiliated with University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB). Students are expected to attend the entire course as space is limited. Please contact Stacie Mendoza at [smendoza@som.umaryland.edu](mailto:smendoza@som.umaryland.edu) with any questions.

**Course schedule** and information can be found at: <http://www.medschool.umaryland.edu/k30/Summer-Short-Course-Introduction-to-Clinical-and-Translational-Research-at-UMB/>.

**PLEASE NOTE:** To receive academic/graduate school credit, students already enrolled in a UMB graduate school program should register for PREV 616 in the 2017 fall semester. To register for PREV 616 in the fall, contact your graduate program office.

**Registration is required online at:**  
<https://introclinicalresearchumb2017.eventbrite.com>

This course is jointly sponsored by the **University of Maryland Claude D. Pepper Older Americans Independence Center (UM-OAIC)** and the **Baltimore VA Medical Center, Geriatric Research Education and Clinical Centers (GRECC)**.

### Introduction to Basic Research Summer Course

August 14-25, 2017

9:00 – 12:00pm each day

685 W. Baltimore Street, MSTF Building, Room 354

The Department of Medicine is pleased to offer its annual summer course "**Introduction to Basic Research**". The course is designed for fellows, residents, post-docs, technicians, students and clinicians who would like to include basic research in their studies, as well as clinicians who would like to explore the applications of basic science methodologies in clinical research. The goal of this course is to provide an overview of the various research techniques and expertise available on campus and also the core scientific resources that are available to our scientists at UMB. Lectures will deal with the background behind various molecular techniques, statistical applications and data analysis, balancing effort versus impact when beginning new research projects, research portfolio building, use of experimental animals, concepts of experimental design and experimental models.

The **deadline for registration is August 10, 2017**. Registration, which covers the cost of all class materials, is \$25. Checks should be written to the **University of Maryland, Baltimore**.

Link to the website: <http://medschool.umaryland.edu/medicine/>

**For further information please contact**  
Dr. Ishwar S. Singh ([isingh@medicine.umaryland.edu](mailto:isingh@medicine.umaryland.edu))

**Registration forms can be scanned and emailed or mailed to**  
Dr. Ishwar S. Singh: [isingh@medicine.umaryland.edu](mailto:isingh@medicine.umaryland.edu), or  
Ishwar S Singh, PhD: Health Science Facility II, Room S141,  
20 Penn St., Baltimore, MD 21201.

**CME credits will not be available.**

## Individual Consultations (RCD)

### GRANT WRITING/SUMMARY STATEMENT REVIEW CONSULTATIONS

**Wendy Sanders, MA**, Associate Dean for Research Career Development, is available to meet with junior faculty regarding how to plan, organize, write and revise a research grant application, including how to address summary statements. To schedule an appointment with Ms. Sanders, email: [wsanders@som.umaryland.edu](mailto:wsanders@som.umaryland.edu)

### FUNDING SOURCE CONSULTATIONS

**Stacie Mendoza**, Research Support Specialist for Research Career Development, assists junior faculty and postdocs with identifying sources of funding for their research including how to navigate the NIH funding database. To schedule an appointment with Ms. Mendoza, email: [smendoza@som.umaryland.edu](mailto:smendoza@som.umaryland.edu)

## Ombudsman Services Available for UMB Faculty & Staff

Confidential Ombuds services are now available to UMB faculty and staff for assistance with workplace concerns. Reasons to visit the Ombudsperson include situations that make one uncomfortable in the workplace such as feeling something unfair has taken place; being unsure about a school or university policy or procedure; conflict with a co-worker or supervisor; needing a neutral person to listen; or seeking help when one does not know where else to turn. Upon request, the ombudsperson also offers mediation or shuttle diplomacy.

The Ombudsperson does not advocate for persons or groups; give legal advice; provide psychological counseling; or participate in formal procedures such as grievances. The Ombudsperson cannot change or waive school policies, nor can she serve as an agent of notice for the University.

**Dr. Laurelyn Irving** holds a PhD from the University of North Texas, an M.S.S.W. from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and a BA from Purdue University. She has over 20 years of experience teaching university staff how to resolve conflict and 11 years in practice as a mediator.

To make an appointment, **Dr. Irving** can be reached at 410-706-8534 or by email at [irving@umaryland.edu](mailto:irving@umaryland.edu). For more information, visit [www.umaryland.edu/ombuds](http://www.umaryland.edu/ombuds)

## New NIH Policy

**New NIH policy aims to:**

- Fund most early-career investigators with R01s that score in the top 25th percentile
- Fund most mid-career investigators (within 10 years of receiving first R01) for R01s that score in top 25th percentile

**For more information on this new policy, visit:**  
<https://nexus.od.nih.gov/all/2017/06/16/nih-next-generation-researchers-initiative/>



## Funding Opportunities ~ Upcoming Deadlines

### DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE (DoD)

#### FY17 Autism Research Program (ARP)

- Clinical Trial Award
- Idea Development Award
- Clinical Translational Research Award

**ELIGIBILITY:** See website for requirements as they vary for each award.

**LOI DUE:** July 26, 2017

**FULL PROPOSAL DUE:** September 1, 2017

**WEBSITE:** <http://cdmrp.army.mil/funding/reftable#7>

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### DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE (DoD)

#### FY17 Spinal Cord Injury Research Program (SCIRP)

- Clinical Research Development Award
- Investigator-Initiated Research Award
- Qualitative Research Award
- Translational Research Award

**ELIGIBILITY:** Independent investigators at all academic levels (or equivalent)

**LOI DUE:** August 8, 2017

**FULL PROPOSAL DUE:** September 29, 2017

**WEBSITE:** <http://cdmrp.army.mil/funding/reftable#17>

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### ARNOLD AND MABEL BECKMAN FOUNDATION

#### Young Investigator Program

**ELIGIBILITY:** The program provides research support to the most promising young faculty members in the early stages of their academic career in the chemical and life sciences, with a focus on fostering the invention of methods, instruments, and materials that will open up new avenues of research in science. Proposals should be truly innovative, high-risk, and show promise for contributing to significant advances in chemistry and the life sciences. Additionally, proposals should represent a departure from current research directions. As per the foundation, a young investigator is a research who is within their first three years of a tenure-track position.

**DEADLINE:** August 15, 2017

**WEBSITE:** <http://www.beckman-foundation.org/programs/beckman-young-investigators-program-information>

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### DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE (DoD)

#### FY17 Parkinson's Research Program (PRP)

- Early Investigator Research Award
- Investigator-Initiated Research Award

**ELIGIBILITY:** See website for requirements as they vary for each award.

**LOI DUE:** August 17, 2017

**FULL PROPOSAL DUE:** August 31, 2017

**WEBSITE:** <http://cdmrp.army.mil/funding/reftable#29>

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### LYMPHOMA RESEARCH FOUNDATION

- Clinical Investigator Career Development Award
- Lymphoma Clinical Research Mentoring Program

**ELIGIBILITY:** See website for requirements as they vary for each award.

**DEADLINE:** September 6, 2017

**WEBSITE:**

<http://www.lymphoma.org/site/pp.asp?c=bkLTKaOQLmK8E&b=8490975>

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### CONQUER CANCER FOUNDATION

Research Grants centered on cancer genetics, cancer cell biology, or cancer immunology

**ELIGIBILITY:** Independent investigators who are at the start of their scientific career (i.e., junior faculty) and are at the level of Assistant Professor (or equivalent with explanation). A letter from the applicant's Department Chair is required.

**LOI DUE:** September 7, 2017

**WEBSITE:** <https://www.concernfoundation.org/apply-for-grant.html>

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### DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE (DoD)

#### FY17 Peer Reviewed Cancer Research Program (PRCRP)

- Career Development Award

**ELIGIBILITY:** Independent, early-career investigator within 10 years after completion of his/her terminal degree by the time of the application submission deadline.

**LOI DUE:** September 12, 2017

**FULL PROPOSAL DUE:** September 28, 2017

**WEBSITE:** <http://cdmrp.army.mil/funding/reftable#11>

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### UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND - PATIENTS ENGAGED IN RESEARCH

#### RFA: Pilot Project Funding for Patient Centered Outcomes Research

Now accepting three (3) special applications for pilot awards for up to \$10,000. This opportunity is designed for researchers to meaningfully engage patients and PATIENTS partners prior to beginning research activities. The goal is to bring together multiple UM researchers to participate in a PCOR project or activity that would expand the PCOR capacity of the University of Maryland.

**APPLICATION DUE:** September 29, 2017

**WEBSITE:** <http://patients.umaryland.edu/pcor/resources.html>

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More funding opportunities can be found at:

<http://www.medschool.umaryland.edu/career/Grant-Deadlines/>

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