

RESEARCH CAREER DEVELOPMENT NEWSLETTER

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

December 2018

The **Research Career Development Program (RCD)** offers workshops, classes and seminars in subjects that are crucial to an academic research career, including Grant Writing, Publishing Your Research and Identifying Funding Sources for Your Research. In addition, RCDP offers symposia on professional skills development, including Scientific Leadership & Professional Development. To view the events and services offered by RCD and upcoming grant deadlines etc., please visit: <http://medschool.umaryland.edu/career/>.

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

Thursday, December 6

1:30 – 3:00pm

660 W. Redwood Street, Howard Hall, Room 450

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 (Floh) Thiels, PhD

Program Director, Neural Systems Cluster
National Science Foundation

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

Identifying Funding Sources for Postdocs

Tuesday, January 8

9:00 – 10:00am

685 W. Baltimore Street, MSTF Building, Room 316

This interactive workshop, given by **Stacie Mendoza**, *Program Director*, 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
- Helpful tips for identifying sources of funding
- Interactive demonstration using funding databases

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

Identifying Funding Sources for Faculty

Wednesday, January 9

9:00 – 10:00am

685 W. Baltimore Street, MSTF Building, Room 316

This interactive workshop, given by **Stacie Mendoza**, *Program Director*, 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
- Helpful tips for identifying sources of funding
- Interactive demonstration using funding databases

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

Defining Your Project on Paper: Developing your Research Question, Hypothesis, and Specific Aims

Wednesday, January 10

10:00 – 12:00pm

685 W. Baltimore Street, MSTF Building, Room 316

Explaining the fundamental idea of your research project on paper is essential for writing grants. The purpose of this workshop is to help faculty in composing and clearly describing their underlying research question, hypothesis, and specific aims. The first hour of the session will be a lecture including tips for developing your research question and how to progress to defining your hypothesis and specific aims. The second hour of the session participants will have the opportunity to discuss drafts of their research question or specific aims.

Speaker:

Marey Shriver, PhD

Director

Office of Research Career Development, UMSOM

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

SCIENTIFIC WRITING: Monthly Seminar Series (Expanded Series)

Scientific Writing: Monthly Seminar Series Thursdays (September 2018 – June 2019) 9:00 – 10:00am

660 W. Redwood Street, Howard Hall, Room 450

The purpose of this seminar series is to help faculty, fellows and postdocs write clear, well-organized scientific papers. The series consists of ten (10), 1-hour stand-alone sessions, each of which focuses on an important aspect of scientific writing. Registration is available for the following two sessions. Dates and subjects for the monthly sessions are outlined below and will be described in detail in subsequent newsletters.

Please note: faculty, fellows and postdocs are welcome to attend every session in the series or single sessions of interest.

Please register for each session in the series.

Dec 13: Tips for Writing a Standard Scientific Research Paper

This session will provide tips for writing a peer-reviewed scientific research paper and will focus on the content of the sections (Introduction, Methods, Results and Discussion, and Title & Abstract). In addition, this session will include advice about organizing and communicating your research.

Speaker:

Wendy Sanders, MA

Associate Dean

Office of Research Career Development, UMSOM

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

Jan 10: Developing Tables, Figures and Graphs for Your Research paper

Tables, figures and graphs play a significant role in presenting and enhancing the writer's message in a scientific paper. Deciding when and how to use these visual aids -- and developing the most appropriate -- can be challenging. This session will provide tips to consider when producing effective tables, figures and graphs.

Speaker:

Jessica Brown, PhD

Assistant Professor

Department of Epidemiology & Public Health, UMSOM

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

SAVE THE DATE!

SCIENTIFIC WRITING: Monthly Seminar Series

Please mark your calendar for the following scheduled sessions on **Thursdays, 9-10am**. **Please note:** The room location has changed for the remaining sessions. Please see the sessions and locations below: Registration information will be announced in future newsletters.

Feb 14: Overview of Peer Review Process (SMC Room 210)

Mar 14: Responding to Reviewers (SMC Room 210)

Apr 11: Tips for Scientific Writing, with a focus on clarity (Howard Hall 224)

May 9: Reviews, Commentaries and Opinion Pieces (TBD)

Jun 13: Business Writing for Scientists: Email, Resumes, Reports, Etc. (TBD)

MANAGING YOUR RESEARCH PROGRAM: Monthly Seminar Series **(New)**

Managing Your Research Program: Monthly Seminar Series Tuesdays (September 2018 – June 2019) 9:00 – 10:00am

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

The purpose of this new seminar series is to support faculty, fellows and senior postdocs who are either new to leading a research team or are interested in honing their leadership skills. This new monthly seminar series consists of ten (10), 1-hour stand-alone sessions, each of which focuses on a subject/skill set that is important to successfully developing and managing a research program/team. Registration is available for the following two sessions. Dates and subjects for the monthly sessions are outlined below and will be described in detail in subsequent newsletters.

Please note: faculty, fellows and postdocs are welcome to attend every session in the series or single sessions of interest.

Please register for each session in the series.

Dec 18: Getting the Mentoring You Need – and Learning How To Mentor

The role of a mentor(s) is one of the most important factors in developing a successful research career. Often, research faculty are unsure about how to identify – and develop an effective relationship – with a mentor or team of mentors. This session consists of practical tips for establishing and maintaining productive relationships with your mentor(s).

Subjects include:

- The role of a mentor
- Approaching a potential mentor
- Preparing for a successful first meeting, as well as subsequent meetings.

This session also includes practical advice for investigators who are new to mentoring or who have mentoring experience but are seeking to improve their skills as a mentor.

Speaker:

Anthony Harris, MD, MPH
Professor

Department of Epidemiology and Public Health, UMSOM

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

Jan 15: Communicating Effectively, including: 1) tips for giving and receiving feedback; and 2) strategies for holding effective meetings

Good communications skills are essential to conducting research. The leader of a research group needs to motivate the members of the group to carry out the work, as well as to be able to withstand some of the difficulties inherent in a research environment. To do this effectively, the research leader, or Principal Investigator, needs to inspire trust and commitment. This session provides practical advice on communicating with your research group, including addressing some of the most difficult communications scenarios, such as giving negative feedback constructively. The session concludes with general tips for effective communications skills.

Note: Contingent upon participant interest, a follow up interactive session will be scheduled, in which participants can practice communicating in a range of common scenarios.

Speaker:

Wendy Sanders, MA
Associate Dean

Office of Research Career Development, UMSOM

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

SAVE THE DATE!

MANAGING YOUR RESEARCH PROGRAM: Monthly Seminar Series

Please mark your calendar for the following scheduled sessions on **Tuesdays, 9-10am** at the **SMC Campus Center, Room 351**. Subjects are identified below and registration information will be announced in future newsletters.

Feb 19: Staffing Issues: Making the Best Hiring Decisions, including Interviewing and Evaluating Applicants; Terminating Employees

Mar 19: Financing Research: 1) Developing a Budget for Your Research Program and 2) Diversifying Your Sources of Funding

Apr 16: Negotiating Skills

May 21: Setting Up Collaborations, Networking, Getting the Most from Meetings & Conferences

Jun 18: Planning for Promotion

Clinical and Translational Research Training

Applications for **Master of Science in Epidemiology and Clinical Research – Clinical Research Track** and the **Certificate Program in Clinical Research** are now being accepted by the Graduate School.

Both are designed specifically to meet the needs of clinicians and scientists who want further education and training to develop a successful career as a clinical and translational investigator. Graduates will gain the ability to identify important clinical research questions, develop research protocols, generate pilot data, conduct clinical research, analyze and write the results in a publishable form and develop and submit grant proposals. Former students include faculty members (particularly those on or applying for career development awards), fellows, residents and medical and dental students. Please see the details and application deadline for each below:

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN EPIDEMIOLOGY AND CLINICAL RESEARCH – CLINICAL RESEARCH TRACK

- 30 credits
- Eligible for tuition remission
- Designed for clinicians and clinicians-in-training wanting to develop a successful clinical research career

APPLICATIONS DUE: February 15, 2019

For more information, visit:

<http://www.medschool.umaryland.edu/k30/Master-of-Science-in-Epidemiology-and-Clinical-Research--Clinical-Research-Track/>
In particular, read the "Frequently asked questions" for each.

CERTIFICATE PROGRAM IN CLINICAL RESEARCH

- 12 credits
- Eligible for tuition remission
- For clinicians and scientists who do not have time to do a full MS but need to gain skills not covered in their health profession or graduate education

APPLICATIONS DUE: March 1, 2019

For more information, visit:

<http://www.medschool.umaryland.edu/k30/Certificate-Program-in-Clinical-Research/>

In particular, read the "Frequently asked questions" for each.

For an individual consultation on whether this is appropriate for you, please contact:

Kristen Stafford, MPH, PhD
kstafford@ihv.umaryland.edu

Dan Morgan MD, MS
dmorgan@som.umaryland.edu

Mary-Claire Roghmann, MD, MS
Mrughmann@som.umaryland.edu

Need to Increase Your Scientific Writing Productivity?

Join A SWAG!

Scientific Writing Accountability Group

SWAG is designed as a peer accountability/support program to increase scientific writing productivity for UMB junior faculty. Groups meet for 1-hour a week for 10 consecutive weeks. These meetings consist of individual timed writing and discussion of/sharing weekly goals and updates. Space is limited to 4-8 participants in each group. Evidence supports that SWAG members significantly improve their writing productivity/quality, goal-setting and time management skills, and networking/community-building.

New groups are forming!

To join a group, complete a form online at:

<https://umbforms.wufoo.com/forms/request-to-join-swag/>

or contact **Stacie Mendoza** at

smendoza@som.umaryland.edu

SWAG Website:

<http://www.medschool.umaryland.edu/career/Scientific-Writing-Accountability-Group-SWAG-Program/>

Individual Consultations (RCD)

GRANT APPLICATION/SUMMARY STATEMENT CONSULTATIONS

Wendy Sanders, MA, *Associate Dean* for Research Career Development, is available to meet with junior faculty regarding how to plan and develop NIH grant applications. In addition, Ms. Sanders is available to discuss eligibility for various NIH applications. Finally, Ms. Sanders is also available to discuss strategies for addressing summary statements/revising a research grant application. **Email:** wsanders@som.umaryland.edu

FUNDING SOURCE CONSULTATIONS

Stacie Mendoza, *Program Director* 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 a funding consultation, complete a **Funding Search Request Form** online at <http://www.medschool.umaryland.edu/career/Grant-Funding-Consultation-Service/> **Email:** smendoza@som.umaryland.edu

Funding Opportunities ~ Upcoming Deadlines

PANCREATIC CANCER ACTION NETWORK

Translational Research Grant

The Translational Research Grant supports projects that are built on a strong foundation of basic research and propose steps that translate that finding into a drug or immunologic approach to the treatment of pancreatic cancer.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: December 21, 2018

WEBSITE: <http://media.pancan.org/rsa/2018/2019-TRG-Guideline-And-Application-Instructions-FINAL.pdf>

UMB INSTITUTE FOR CLINICAL AND TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH (ICTR)

2019 - 2020 Accelerated Translational Incubator Pilot (ATIP) Grant Program

The second round of UMB ICTR Accelerated Translational Incubator Pilot (ATIP) Grant Program provides starter funds for projects specifically focused on innovative, translational research that involves faculty from the schools of medicine, pharmacy, dentistry, nursing, law, and social work or UMB-community partnerships.

This request for proposals provides 12 months of funding for two types of ATIP Program opportunities: the ICTR Innovative Collaboration Pilot Grant and the ICTR Community-Engaged Research Grant. Awards up to \$50,000 will be funded with at least one Community-Engaged Research Grant award.

DEADLINE: January 7, 2019

WEBSITE: <http://www.umaryland.edu/ictr/funding/umb-ictr-support-and-funding/atip-grant-program-foa>

For questions regarding application guidelines, please contact Meriem Gaval Cruz via ICTR-navigator@umaryland.edu.

WHITEHALL FOUNDATION

- Research Grants
- Grants-in-Aid

The Foundation is currently interested in basic research in neurobiology, defined as follows: Invertebrate and vertebrate (excluding clinical) neurobiology, specifically investigations of neural mechanisms involved in sensory, motor, and other complex functions of the whole organism as these relate to behavior. The overall goal should be to better understand behavioral output or brain mechanisms of behavior.

LOI DUE: January 15, 2019

APPLICATION DUE: June 1, 2019

WEBSITE: <http://www.whitehall.org/grants/>

Foundation Funding Assistance

To learn more about foundation funding opportunities, individual funding searches, and assistance with foundation grant development and submission, please contact:

Ms. Sarah Bradley

Director, Foundation Relations
Office of Development

sbradley@som.umaryland.edu

410-706-0107

MARYLAND STEM CELL RESEARCH FUND

- Discovery Program
- Validation Program
- Commercialization Program
- Post-Doctoral Fellowship Grants
- Clinical Program to Advance Medical Therapies

The Maryland Stem Cell Research Fund provides a variety of grant programs for human stem cell research in the state of Maryland which are listed above. Please read each RFA carefully when applying.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: January 17, 2019

WEBSITE: <http://www.msccrf.org/content/fundingopps/index.php>

PARKINSON'S FOUNDATION

Clinical Research Award

The Clinical Research Award support the research expenses of a clinician scientist whose clinically oriented research involves living with Parkinson's disease.

LOI DEADLINE: January 22, 2019

APPLICATION DEADLINE: April 8, 2019

WEBSITE: <http://parkinson.org/research/Grant-Opportunities/clinical-research-awards>

AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION

Transformative Project Award

The Transformative Project Award support highly innovative, high-impact projects that build on work in progress that could ultimately lead to critical discoveries or major advancements that will accelerate the field of cardiovascular and stroke research.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: January 23, 2019

WEBSITE:

https://professional.heart.org/professional/ResearchPrograms/UCM497208_Transformational-Project-Award.jsp

FAHS-BECK FUND FOR RESEARCH AND EXPERIMENTATION Faculty/Post-Doctoral Research Grant Program (Mental Health Research)

This program funds: studies to develop, refine, evaluate, or disseminate innovative interventions designed to prevent or ameliorate major social, psychological, behavioral or public health problems affecting children, adults, couples, families, or communities, or studies that have the potential for adding significantly to knowledge about such problems.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: April 1, 2019

WEBSITE:

www.fahsbeckfund.org/pdf_files/Post_Doctoral_Guidelines.pdf

UMB Internal Grant Announcements

<http://www.umaryland.edu/ictr/funding/umb-internal-funding-highlights/>

UMGCC Funding Database (Cancer related research)

<https://umgccfundingopps.org/>

To receive weekly UMGCC funding announcements, contact:

Sarah Laye at SLaye@som.umaryland.edu

PLEASE NOTE: We strongly encourage faculty to discuss their research application plans with their supervisor/Chairman. For some applications, such as career development awards or foundation applications, approval of the Chairperson is required to apply.

CENTER FOR INNOVATIVE BIOMEDICAL RESOURCES (CIBR)

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

The **Center for Innovative Biomedical Resources (CIBR)** is the administrative umbrella for the wide portfolio of core facilities UMSOM investigators have available to support their research. In addition to the cutting-edge services, instrumentation and expertise CIBR cores provide, CIBR also hosts seminars, workshops, symposia and an annual retreat.

CIBR News Update

Attention SOM Faculty Investigators – Improve your grant application! **Take advantage of the pre-award biostatistics services available to you in the School of Medicine**

Support for Pre-Award Biostatistical Services

The School of Medicine understands the important role biostatistics play in the support of the research mission.

Working in partnership with a Biostatistician when developing your grant proposal adds to the likelihood of a successful outcome.

All SOM PI's have access to a limited amount of free, pre-award biostatistical services provided by the SOM's Biostatistics Core and are highly encouraged to take full advantage of this.

Institutional support of Pre-Award Biostatistical services is available from 3 different sources:

1. The University of Maryland Greenebaum Comprehensive Cancer Center (UMGCCC) covers the cost of these services for all official, faculty members of the UMGCCC engaged in a cancer-related project.
2. The University of Maryland Baltimore's Institute for Clinical & Translational Research (ICTR) provides all UMB investigators the ability to apply for up to 25 hours of biostatistical support per project if the project is clinical and/or translational in nature.
3. The University of Maryland School of Medicine's Center for Innovative Biomedical Research (CIBR) will fund pre-award biostatistics work done by the School's Biostatistics Core that cannot be funded by the two mechanisms outlined above for SOM investigators until allocated funds are exhausted.

How to Take Advantage of These Supported Services:

1. UMGCCC investigators engaged in a cancer-related project need do nothing different.
 - The Biostatistics Core, CIBR & UMGCCC have automated this process via the SOM's iLab system for the last several years.
2. Any UMB Investigator can easily apply for pre-award work to be supported by ICTR when the project is clinical and/or translational in nature.
 - To learn more, visit: <http://www.umaryland.edu/ictr/investigator-resources/ictr-biostatistics-core-services/>
 - To apply, visit <http://www.umaryland.edu/ictr/funding/umb-ictr-support-and-funding/ictr-core-service-request/>
3. When pre-award work does not meet the requirements for support by the above two mechanisms the Biostatistics Core will identify the work to be supported by the SOM/CIBR.

The Biostatistics Core is directed by **Soren Bentzen, PhD, DMSc** (sbentzen@som.umaryland.edu) and includes 7 additional full-time, Faculty Biostatisticians

The Core's Business Manager is **Susan Holt** (sholt@som.umaryland.edu – 410-706-8505) and is a good initial point of contact, as well.

Website: <http://www.medschool.umaryland.edu/epidemiology/biostats>

iLab site: https://cibr.umaryland.edu/service_center/3949

Spotlight on CIBR Resources

THE CYTOKINE CORE LABORATORY (CCL)

The Cytokine Core Laboratory (CCL) is an academic-based fee-for-service research based laboratory on the University of Maryland Baltimore campus. We are dedicated to providing high quality and low cost cytokine, chemokine and growth factor assay services. We are committed to facilitating research for our clients. The CCL offers assay services to both intramural and extramural investigators from around the world.

The CCL currently utilizes two types of assay platforms, ELISA's and Multiplex. Our ELISA platform is based on a traditional sandwich method that uses matched antibody pairs. We have found that this method is well suited for the complex samples and offers high specificity, flexibility and sensitivity required by many of our investigators. Our in-house ELISA's are constructed and optimized using individual high quality commercial reagents and any biomarkers that cannot be assayed with our in-house system can be assayed using pre-made vendor kits. We strive to provide high inter-assay reproducibility over time and validation/calibration of reagents is routinely performed.

Multiplex assays are a fluorescent bead-based method using Luminex technology. This method uses magnetic microspheres that are dyed with differing intensities. Each bead is given a bead region and that region is associated with a different biomarker. These dyed beads are then read on our Luminex's MagPix system. Up to 50 different biomarkers can be assayed together in one well. This allows for a significant decrease in the volume required which increases the amount of data that can be obtained. Many of the Multiplex assays have a larger dynamic range than ELISA's allowing the investigator to see varying concentrations without needing dilutions. All of our multiplex assays can be customized and are offered in a variety of species. We use controls to ensure that all assays are performing optimally.

We welcome communication with investigators during study design, prior to sample submission, following reporting of results, and during manuscript preparation.

**University of Maryland School of Medicine
Center for Innovative Biomedical Resources**

655 W. Baltimore Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21201
Email: CIBR@som.umaryland.edu