

RESEARCH CAREER DEVELOPMENT NEWSLETTER

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

September 2020

The **Office of Research Career Development Program (RCD)** supports the research and professional development of SOM faculty with an emphasis on supporting early stage faculty. RCD provides programs and resources to develop skills in effective grant writing, scientific communication, and scientific leadership. In addition, RCD offers one-on-one consultations in areas that are critical to academic research. To view the events and services offered by RCD, please visit: <http://medschool.umaryland.edu/career/>.

In compliance with the UMB COVID-19 Response Policies, RCDP will only be offering virtual events at this time.

RESEARCH SKILLS SEMINARS

Leading a Successful Virtual Research Meeting or Event

Thursday, September 10 • 9:00 – 10:00am (Zoom)

Leading a virtual research meeting or event comes with many benefits and challenges. This session will cover how to effectively lead a virtual weekly research meeting or a large group event including 1) advice on best practices for preparing for and executing a virtual research meeting or event, 2) how to use the features of a virtual platform (WebEx, Zoom, and Microsoft Teams), and 3) common mistakes to avoid when transitioning to a virtual environment.

Speakers: **Gregory Carey, PhD**, Associate Professor of Microbiology & Immunology, UMSOM and **Odessa Addison, DPT, PhD**, Assistant Professor, Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science, UMSOM

Registration required: <https://registrationrcdp.eventbrite.com>

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

Thursday, October 8 • 9:00 – 10:00am (Zoom)

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. This session will include tips for developing your research question and how to progress to defining your hypothesis and specific aims.

Speaker: **Marey Shriver, PhD**, Director, Office of Research Career Development, UMSOM

Registration required: <https://registrationrcdp.eventbrite.com>

Overview of NIH Career Development (K) Awards

Tuesday, October 27

9:00 – 10:45am (Lecture)

10:45 - 11:45am (Optional Breakout sessions)
(Zoom)

This session provides an overview of NIH Career Development (“K”) Awards, including the major types of awards (K99/R00, K01, K08, K23, K25). The following subjects will be covered:

- Components of a K award
- Eligibility and competitiveness for a K award
- Preliminary steps, including developing a fundable research question, identifying your mentor(s) and communicating with your Program Officer
- Review Criteria for a K Award
- Identifying non-NIH career development awards

The session will conclude with **optional** 1 hour breakout sessions. During the breakout sessions participants will have the opportunity to interact with the speakers, recent K awardees, and a former NIH program officer and ask questions related to their grant application. **Target audience:** UMB faculty and postdocs who are considering applying for an NIH Career Development “K” award in June or October of 2021.

Speakers: **Marey Shriver, PhD**, Director, Office of Research Career Development, UMSOM; **Jennifer Aumiller, MEd**, Director of Pre & Postdoctoral Career Development, Office of Postdoctoral Scholars, UMSOM; **Renee Cockerham, PhD**, Program Manager, Office of Postdoctoral Scholars, UMSOM and **Stacie Mendoza**, Program Director, Office of Research Career Development, UMSOM

This session is sponsored by the Office of Research Career Development and the Office of Postdoctoral Scholars, UMSOM

Registration required: <https://registrationrcdp.eventbrite.com>

NIH Basics: Understanding Grant Mechanisms, Funding Announcements, and using NIH RePORTER

Tuesday, September 29 • 9:00 – 10:00am (Zoom)

Understanding the NIH organizational structure, how to identify the right funding mechanism and announcement, and the grants review process is an essential first step before applying for NIH funding. This session will provide an overview of the NIH grants process, as well as, helpful resources for early stage faculty not familiar with NIH funding. This workshop will cover topics including: an overview of the different NIH funding mechanisms; identifying Funding Opportunity Announcements (FOAs); using NIH RePORTER; and the NIH system of Peer Review.

Speaker: **Marey Shriver, PhD**, Director, Office of Research Career Development, UMSOM

Registration required: <https://registrationrcdp.eventbrite.com>

MANAGING YOUR RESEARCH PROGRAM Bi-Monthly Seminar Series

The purpose of the **Managing Your Research Program 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 bi-monthly seminar series consists of five (5), 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 first session. Dates and subjects for the subsequent sessions will be announced in future newsletters.

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

Succeeding in Research During the Pandemic Tuesday, September 22 • 9:00 – 10:00am (Zoom)

Conducting research during a pandemic includes unprecedented challenges. The reduction of research activities due to social distancing, increased clinical duties, and childcare responsibilities faced by many researchers have led to widespread impacts on research and professional development. This session will discuss 1) strategies for navigating the challenges associated with conducting research, 2) applying for grant funding, 3) changes in productivity and 4) conducting COVID-19 related research during the pandemic while maintaining momentum and morale.

A panel of experienced UMSOM faculty will answer questions on succeeding in your research during these challenging times.

Panelists:

Bennie Jeng, MD, Professor and Chair, Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences, UMSOM

Steven Kittner, MD, MPH, Professor, Vice Chair for Research, Department of Neurology, UMSOM

Mary Claire Roghmann, MD, MS, Professor, Department of Epidemiology & Public Health, Associate Dean For Trans-Disciplinary Research and Associate Dean For Physician-Scientist Training, UMSOM

Shannon Takala Harrison, PhD, Associate Professor, Head, Genomic Epidemiology Unit Malaria Research Program, Center for Vaccine Development and Global Health, UMSOM

Stefanie Vogel, PhD, Professor, Department of Microbiology and Immunology, UMSOM

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

SAVE THE DATE!

Please mark your calendar for the following scheduled "Managing Your Research Program" seminar on **Tuesday, 9-10am**. Registration will be announced in future newsletters.

Nov 10 Communicating Effectively as a Research or Lab Leader in a Virtual Setting

SCIENTIFIC WRITING Monthly Seminar Series

The purpose of the **Scientific Writing 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 first two sessions. Dates and subjects for the subsequent monthly sessions will be announced in future newsletters.

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

Tips for Increasing Your Scientific Writing Productivity

Thursday, September 17 • 9:00 – 10:00am (Zoom)

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 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 participants write more quickly and efficiently.

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, fellows and postdocs.

Speakers:

Marey Shriver, PhD, Director, Office of Research Career Development, UMSOM

Stacie Mendoza, Program Director, Office of Research Career Development, UMSOM

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

Planning Your Publication

Thursday, October 22 • 9:00 – 10:00am (Zoom)

This session will focus on the publication planning process and provide tips for getting published in an academic journal. Discussion will include the importance of defining your research questions, choosing an appropriate journal, and strategies for effective organization and writing during manuscript preparation. Topics include 1) Defining your research question, 2) Choosing an appropriate journal and 3) Strategies for effective organization and writing

Speaker: Marey Shriver, PhD, Director, Office of Research Career Development, UMSOM

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

SAVE THE DATE!

Please mark your calendar for the following "Scientific Writing" seminars on **Thursdays, 9-10am**. Registration will be announced in future newsletters.

Nov 19 Ethical Considerations in Authorship including how to determine authorship

Dec 3 Tips for Writing a Standard Scientific Research Paper

FUNDING SEMINAR SERIES

Identifying Funding Sources for Faculty Thursday, September 24 • 9:00 – 10:00am (Zoom)

This interactive workshop 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

Speaker: Stacie Mendoza, Program Director, Office of Research Career Development, UMSOM

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

Maryland Stem Cell Research Fund (MSCRF) Funding Information Session Friday, October 2 • 9:00 – 11:00am (Zoom)

This information session 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. Participants will also hear from a panel of recent awardees who will share their personal experience/advice with submitting a MSCRF grant. **Target Audience:** Faculty and Postdocs.

For more information on MSCRF funding opportunities, visit: <https://www.mscrf.org/funding-opportunities>.

Speakers:

Dan Gincel, PhD, VP University Partnerships, TEDCO and Executive Director of Maryland Stem Cell Research Fund (MSCRF)

Curt Civin, MD, Associate Dean for Research and Director of the Center for Stem Cell Biology & Regenerative Medicine, UMSOM

Panelists:

Tami Kingsbury, PhD, Assistant Professor, Department of Physiology, UMSOM

Xiaofeng Jia, BM, PhD, Professor, Department of Neurosurgery, UMSOM

Muthukumar Gunasekaran, PhD, Research Associate, Department of Surgery, UMSOM

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

SCHOLARLY WRITING ACCOUNTABILITY GROUP (SWAG) PROGRAM

Virtual Program to Help Faculty Increase Their Scholarly Writing Productivity

The Office of Research Career Development (RCD) provides a peer accountability/support program designed to increase writing productivity among UMB early stage faculty called **Scholarly Writing Accountability Group (SWAG)**. A description of our SWAG program follows, including an introduction to our **new virtual SWAG**.

WHAT IS SWAG?

A **SWAG** is an active peer-led writing group for **UMB early stage faculty** that meets for 1-hour, once a week over a 10-week period. Groups follow a structured agenda including 15 minutes of updates and goal-setting followed by 30 minutes of individual writing and then 15 minutes of reporting and wrap-up. Each group is limited to 4-8 members who **MUST** commit to attending at least 8 out of the 10 weekly sessions. In a SWAG, there is no peer review of writing; SWAGs focus on the *process* of writing, not the *content*. **The goal for SWAG members is to write with increased frequency and for shorter durations; i.e., to develop a sustainable writing habit.** The SWAG program is being used at multiple major medical schools. The data which have been reported on the results of this program are very favorable, reflecting significant increases in the quantity and quality of writing by faculty participants.

For more information on our SWAG program, visit: <https://www.medschool.umaryland.edu/career/Scholarly-Writing-Accountability-Group-SWAG-Program/>

VIRTUAL SWAG!

A virtual SWAG functions the same as our traditional "face-to-face" format mentioned above; however, groups will meet via Microsoft Teams using its video conference capability. Groups will meet virtually for one hour a week for 10 consecutive weeks. *Groups are forming on a rolling basis.*

If you are interested in participating in a virtual SWAG, please complete the following form:

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

Questions?

Contact **Stacie Mendoza** at smendoza@som.umaryland.edu

**ARTICLES & WEBINARS
RECOMMENDED BY RCDP
SEPTEMBER PICKS!**

Overcoming Imposter Syndrome

https://www.podbean.com/media/share/pb-i64i7-e784a1?utm_campaign=u_share_ep&utm_medium=dlink&utm_source=u_share

10 Things Early Career Professionals Can do to Prepare for Promotion

https://www.podbean.com/media/share/pb-4f9g8-e546e7?utm_campaign=u_share_ep&utm_medium=dlink&utm_source=u_share

Edge Writing Resources Roundup

<https://edgeforscholars.org/writing-resources-roundup/>

3 Tips for Writing to Non-Specialists

<https://edgeforscholars.org/three-tips-for-writing-to-non-specialists>

**HEALTH SCIENCES AND HUMAN
SERVICES LIBRARY**

Apply to Be an All of Us Researcher!

The **All of Us Research Program** is now accepting applications from researchers to use the Researcher Workbench tools and protected dataset.

The [All of Us Research Program](#), part of the National Institutes of Health, is a historic effort to collect and study data from a diverse cohort of one million or more participants living in the United States. The [All of Us Research Hub](#) stores the health data from the **All of Us Research Program** and is now accepting applications from researchers to access the Researcher Workbench tools and protected dataset.

The University of Maryland, Baltimore has signed a Data Use and Registration Agreement with the **All of Us Research Program**. This means that UMB researchers with an eRA Commons* account are now eligible for access to the Researcher Workbench and Registered Tier Data after completion of the **All of Us Research Hub** application and registration process.

For more information, please visit the All of Us [Data Use Policies](#) page. For guidance on completing the application for access, [visit our guide](#) or email data@hshsl.umaryland.edu at the Center for Data and Bioinformation Services at the Health Sciences and Human Services Library.

*If you are a researcher who does not have an eRA Commons account, please work with [CITS](#). Once your account is established, you may apply for access to the Researcher Workbench.

UPCOMING WEBINAR

**Sponsored by the Office of Research and
Scholarship, UMSO**

Conflicts of Interest in Research

Thursday September 17 • 12:00 -1:00pm (Webex)

Speaker: Alison Watkins, MS, JD, UMB Conflict of Interest Officer, and Assistant Vice President for Enterprise Risk and Policy Oversight

RSVP here:

<https://umaryland.webex.com/umaryland/onstage/g.php?MTID=edef3a13529b815e35c42a5afa103ffb7>

**NIH
RIGOR & REPRODUCIBILITY TRAINING**

Are you completing a Career Development (K) Award? Are you preparing for an upcoming NIH grant application? The NIH has a selection of online training for pre-clinical and clinical research to enhance rigorous experimental design and training. For more information, visit:

(<https://www.nigms.nih.gov/training/pages/clearinghouse-for-training-modules-to-enhance-data-reproducibility.aspx>)

**INDIVIDUAL CONSULTATIONS
Offered by RCD**

**GRANT APPLICATION/SUMMARY STATEMENT
CONSULTATIONS**

Marey Shriver, PhD, Director for Research Career Development, is available to meet with junior faculty to discuss early project conception to development of a complete NIH application. Dr. Shriver offers consultations regarding developing a clear research question and testable hypothesis, eligibility regarding grant applications, and planning for upcoming grant proposal. In addition, she is available to discuss strategies for addressing summary statements and revising research grant applications for resubmission. **Email:** mshriver@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. To schedule a funding consultation, complete the [Funding Search Request Form](#) online. **Email:** smendoza@som.umaryland.edu

COVID-19 RELATED UPDATES & FUNDING WEBSITES

NIH UPDATES

- Information for NIH Applicants and Recipients of NIH Funding during COVID-19 Pandemic (including Funding Opportunities Specific to COVID-19): <https://grants.nih.gov/policy/natural-disasters/corona-virus.htm>
- Funding for Research on COVID-19 and Information for NIH Applicants re: Impact of COVID-19 on Grants and Submissions

The following [document](#) includes COVID-19 Information for NIH Applicants and a list of COVID-19 related research funding opportunities and databases. This document is updated frequently and posted on the [RCD website](#) under the "Funding Highlights" section located on the Home Page.

WEBSITES LISTING FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES SPECIFIC TO COVID-19

- **EDGE FOR SCHOLARS:**
<https://edgeforscholars.org/covid-19-funding-updates/>
- **UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND:**
<https://umd.infoready4.com/#competitionDetail/1809933>
The UMD-College Park Division of Research issues funding alert emails on a weekly basis. To receive this alert, fill out the [online form](#). Visit the [COVID-19 Research @ UMD](#) page for updates, listings, news, etc.
- **INFOED GLOBAL:**
<https://www.infoedglobal.com/COVID19/COVID-19.html>
- **JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY:**
<https://hub.jhu.edu/novel-coronavirus-information/research-preparedness/research-preparedness-covid-19-funding-opportunities/>

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



OFFICE FOR RESEARCH CAREER DEVELOPMENT
685 W. Baltimore Street, MSTF 3-19
Baltimore, MD 21201 Phone: 410-706-5434
<http://www.medschool.umaryland.edu/career/>

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

BLAVATNIK FAMILY FOUNDATION (limited submission) National Awards for Young Scientists

This Award invites applications from the most promising faculty-rank researchers in Life Sciences, Physical Sciences & Engineering, and Chemistry in U.S. The nominee must **have been born on or after 1979, currently hold a tenured or tenure-track academic faculty position (or equivalent), and conduct research as a principal investigator in one of the disciplinary categories in Life Sciences, Physical Sciences & Engineering, or Chemistry in the U.S. with a doctoral degree (PhD, DPhil, MD, DDS, DVM, etc.).** Detailed information can be found at: <http://blavatnikawards.org/awards/national-awards/nomination-guidelines/>

The nomination period will open between Wednesday, September 16 – Wednesday, October 28, 2020.

Please have interested candidates submit a **one page pre-proposal that clearly identifies which disciplinary category they are applying for, plus their NIH-style biosketch** to Grace Zhang (mzhang@som.umaryland.edu) by **5 PM on Friday, September 11, 2020**

PASSANO FOUNDATION Clinician-Investigator Awards for Career Development

The purpose of these Passano Clinician-Investigator Awards 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 are applying for external career development grant support.

DEADLINE: Proposals must be submitted by **October 2, 2020**. Guidelines for this opportunity can be found at:

<https://www.medschool.umaryland.edu/media/SOM/Offices-of-the-Dean/Office-of-Research-Affairs/documents/Passano-Fnd-Clin-Scientist-Award-Guidelines-2020.doc>

CONTACT: Marey Shriver, PhD mshriver@som.umaryland.edu

GERBER FOUNDATION Research Grant

The Gerber Foundation's mission focuses on the nutrition, care and development of infants and young children. Therefore, grant-making interests are focused on nutrition and/or health-related research having a significant impact on issues facing infants and young children from the first year before birth to age 3.

CONCEPT PAPER DEADLINE: November 15, 2020

APPLICATION DEADLINE: February 15, 2021

WEBSITE: <https://www.gerberfoundation.org/focus-areas/>

PARKINSON'S DISEASE FOUNDATION Stanley Fahn Junior Faculty Award

The Parkinson's Disease Foundation seeks clinical, pre-clinical or basic research proposals that will directly impact the understanding of Parkinson's disease or its treatment from promising early career scientists. Successful project should include novel Parkinson's disease research hypotheses and be inventive in methodology or approach.

LOI DEADLINE: November 15, 2020

APPLICATION DEADLINE: February 18, 2021

WEBSITE: <https://www.parkinson.org/research/Grant-Opportunities/Fahn-Awards>