You are invited to apply to the **MHRC Health Disparities Research Training Certificate Program**, focusing on **health disparities research** in cancer, aging, cardiovascular disease, HIV, and other disease conditions.

We are now accepting applications from junior level faculty and mid-level faculty, who are new to research or are interested in making a transition to disparities research (transitional faculty). Medical residents and post-doctoral fellows may apply, in particular for cancer disparities research. This **one-year research training certificate program starts in September 2017, and continues through August 2018.**

The **applications are due by Wednesday, August 16, 2017.**

The **Objectives of the MHRC Health Disparities Research Training Certificate Program** are to:

1. Develop independent researchers in health disparities research through individualized mentored training
2. Provide instruction in scientific research methodology and design
3. Provide training on the topic of health disparities and innovative approaches to reduce them
4. Teach scientific writing and grant preparation skills to produce a grant submission to an external agency.

A final product of an R03 (or equivalent) grant proposal may be written and submitted by each scholar during the training period. The scholars will also focus on secondary data analysis and development of manuscripts for publication, in addition to the research training faculty discussions.

Portions of the training will include web-based training courses and independent grant development with a mentor at times convenient to the scholars. In addition, scholars will be required to participate in scheduled video conference faculty development group discussions. The video conference format allows trainees to participate from their home institutions.

Through participation in faculty development discussions and workshops, scholars will be able to enhance their knowledge and scientific skills, as well as gain expertise in health disparities research. Participants in these activities will become stronger candidates for grant funding as independent investigators.

- Interested early career researchers should apply. All candidates must submit an application, CV, Statement of Intent, and Letter of Support (LOS) through the UAB MHRC website.
- Request LOS now - from a supervising senior faculty person, Director, Dean, or Chair, in order to upload with other documents. LOS should address support of research career and release time to participate in HDRTP.
- Please have all materials ready to upload in Adobe PDF format and submit at one time.
- Application deadline is Wednesday, August 16, 2017, by 11:59pm Central Time.
- You will receive immediate confirmation that your application was uploaded successfully. If you do not, please email annsmith@uab.edu ASAP. Applicants will be notified by Aug. 31, 2017.

**Sponsored by grants from the NIH National Cancer Institute (NCI), NIH National Institute on Aging (NIA) and NIH National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD), through Alabama State U, Creighton U, Jackson State U, Morehouse School of Medicine, Tuskegee U, the University of Alabama, and the University of Alabama at Birmingham, and coordinated by the UAB MHRC.**
Training Program Information and Schedule

The **MHRC Health Disparities Research Training Certificate Program (HDRTP)** has a one-year training period. As a scholar with the program, you must commit your schedule to include seminars and courses, as well as time to work with your mentor or mentoring team on a research project, writing manuscripts for publication, and developing a grant proposal.

*Your attendance is required for all activities listed below.* The program will provide you:

1. **Faculty Development Discussion Video Conferences (VC) weekly** at all sites, connecting to UAB. 26 x 1.5 hour sessions (2 to 5 per month). **Tuesdays at 1:30-3:00pm Central Time (2:30-4:00 ET)**
2. **Two one-day Workshops on Bioethics** and cross cultural issues at Tuskegee University (a Friday in Nov and May – Dates TBD: proposed 11/10/17 and 5/11/18.)
3. **Online Video Course in basic Biostatistics** by O. Dale Williams, PhD
4. **Online Video Course in Epidemiology** by Olivia T. Affuso, PhD
5. **Online Video Course in Minority Aging** by Patricia Sawyer, PhD
6. **Independent research and grant proposal development guided by a mentor**
7. **Intensive Grant Development Session** – Grant Writing Retreat with methodological training and in-depth critique of research grant proposals. *(Wed-Friday, February 14-16, OR Feb. 21-23, 2018)*

- The MHRC HDRTP is a 1-year individualized mentored research training certificate program, which is sponsored by multiple grants and institutions, and coordinated by the UAB Minority Health & Health Disparities Research Center (UAB MHRC).
- During the program, the didactic HDR training described above will be provided, with emphasis on development of manuscripts for publication, including secondary data analysis, and research proposal development for submitting one or more grant applications.
- Individual Scholars will be encouraged to apply for HDRTP-sponsored **$10,000**, or larger intramural, pilot grant funding, based on their experience and needs.
- Individual Scholars who complete all program requirements will receive a Certificate in Health Disparities Research, signifying specialized training in Health Disparities Research.
- Scholars may be sponsored by a grant, or by their own institution or professional association.

Examples of topics for the video conference faculty development discussions include Health Disparities Research, Research Design and Methods, Program Evaluation, Community-Based Participatory Research, Translational Research, Study Participant Recruitment and Retention, Models of Behavioral Change, Health Economics, and Manuscript and Grant Preparation. For the face-to-face workshops, travel to the other campuses will be reimbursed.

As part of the **individualized mentoring**, each HDRTP Scholar will develop a Scholar/Mentor Research Work Plan Agreement. The Scholar and Mentor will work together to set the Scholar’s personal HDRTP goals based on where the Scholar is in his/her career, and grant and publication history.

- Program Requirements include: at least one manuscript written and submitted, timely submission of HDRTP reports, and at least 80% attendance at HDRTP activities.
- Scholars will be expected to submit a grant application to an external funding agency (K-award or R-series grant); or a small pilot grant application, which will be reviewed and must receive a competitive score; and complete one or two publications.
- If you would like more information, please contact Ann Smith at (205) 934-9903, or via email at annsmith@uab.edu.