Did You Know?
The NIH recently revamped its Rigor and Reproducibility web pages, updating terms and offering "simple and easy to read" resources to help grant writers meet the requirements implemented in 2016. Chief among the language tweaks, NIH has changed "scientific premise" to "rigor of the prior research" in response to confusion expressed by applicants, investigators, and reviewers. Other helpful new material addresses calculating sample sizes, developing an authentication plan, study design for pre-clinical animal model experiments, and including both sexes in research plans. The site also offers video tutorials and a podcast series in which NIH Extramural Research Integrity Officer Dr. Patricia Valdez discusses key policy elements in an application, the peer review process, and post-award annual progress reporting. More

News/Announcements

Upcoming Informatics Meetings Offer Unique Translational Learning Opportunities
Are you interested in the latest tools, techniques, and trends in precision medicine, clinical informatics, bioinformatics, and big data for translational 'omics research? If so, mark your calendar for several upcoming events focused on the latest advances in these fields. Calls for abstracts to participate as a speaker or presenter are open or opening soon! More

Save the Date for Our Next CCTS Monthly Forum!
Breaking with our usual Wednesday tradition, the next CCTS Monthly Forum will take place on Monday, February 11. Time (4-5:30pm), location (Pittman Center for Advanced Medical Studies or PCAMS), format (lively discussion preceded and followed by yummy hors d’oeuvres) remain the same. Feb. Forum will focus on major transformations that are changing the way we conduct clinical trials, including the latest recommendations from the national Clinical Trials Transformation Initiative. More

CCTS January Forum Offers Tips to Master Peer Review
Joined by a multidisciplinary panel of biomedical journal Editors-in-Chief, CCTS teed up best practices for mastering peer review to nearly 80 attendees, including a record-breaking number of virtual participants. More

Apply for a Life Sciences Internship with HudsonAlpha and
Affiliates
If you are a student who attends a college or university or who has a permanent address in Alabama, consider applying for a BioTrain Life Sciences internship with CCTS Partner HudsonAlpha (HA). BioTrain has over 20 paid positions in research, computational biology, chemistry, business, marketing, and genetic counseling. The summer internships run for nine weeks and include a Biotech Boot Camp and weekly professional development seminars. Applications for Summer 2019 are due by Friday, February 15, 2019. More

Funding Opportunities

NIH Releases 40+ Fast-Track HEAL FOAs--Apply Soon!
The NIH Helping to End Addiction Long-term (HEAL) funding opportunities posted over the past few weeks offer translational researchers from across the T-spectrum (T0-T4) a new source of support for discovery research, preclinical development, clinical trials, implementation/dissemination studies, and technology development or commercialization. The catch? Most have short application windows (i.e., late January/early February deadlines) and specialized submission criteria (e.g., all applicants to RFA-NS-19-021, which will fund pain-related comparative effectiveness clinical trials, must include a letter of support from CCTS). Check out the list and share broadly with your colleagues. Applications due Monday, February 11, 2019. More

Enhance Your Research with a CCTS and/or Radiology Imaging Development Voucher
Do you have specimens that need processing, data that need analyzing, or subjects who require dietary, nursing, or regulatory support? Would your project benefit from molecular, functional or anatomic images? The CCTS and UAB Dept. of Radiology voucher programs offer extra support that may help take your research to the next level. Investigators with a full-time faculty appointment at any CCTS Partner institution are encouraged to apply. Each program offers up to $5,000 in direct costs. More

Immuno-Oncology Translation Network (IOTN): Cancer Immunoprevention Research Projects (U01 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)
NIH has released two new FOAs associated with the Beau Biden Cancer Moonshot Initiative that is intended to accelerate cancer research. Specifically, these FOAs seek to support the creation of a translational science network devoted exclusively to immunotherapy approaches to treat and prevent adult cancers. Submit applications to RFA-CA-19-014 and RFA-CA-19-015 by 5pm, Thursday, February 8, 2019. More

CD2H
$100K CD2H Idea Competition
The CTSA Program’s National Center for Data to Health (CD2H) is excited to announce the launch of the CD2H Idea Competition. This is an opportunity to turn your scientific question into a DREAM Challenge to be tackled by teams around the world. If your idea is selected, you will receive a $100,000 subcontract to run the DREAM Challenge in collaboration with the CD2H. The deadline to submit your initial proposal is Friday, February 15, 2019. More
Limited Competition: Clinical and Translational Science Award (CTSA) Program: Collaborative Innovation Awards
The NCATS CTSA Program Collaborative Innovation Awards (CCIA) support team-based research to develop, demonstrate, and disseminate innovations that can improve the translational science process and turn laboratory, clinical, and community observations into interventions that benefit public health. CCIA enable investigators to tackle a translational science problem no one hub can solve alone and/or to disseminate a validated solution developed at one hub to other hubs. Submit applications to PAR-19-099 and PAR-19-100 by 5pm, Friday, March 8, 2019. More

This Week's Learning Opportunities

CCTS Drop-In Clinics
Join us for the weekly Monday Drop-In Clinic for free consultations in Biostats, Epidemiology and Research Design. No appointment necessary. Bring laptop and study related questions.
Jan. 28 | 10am-2pm | Edge of Chaos | More

Cancer Outcomes Seminar Series
"Patient-Reported Outcomes for Toxicity and Symptom Monitoring in Oncology," presented by Ethan Basch, MD, MSc, FASCO, University of North Carolina School of Medicine, Chapel Hill, NC.
Jan. 28 | 11am-12pm | Wallace Tumor Institute 101 | More

Case Studies in Mentoring: Addressing Equity and Inclusion
Bring your questions and concerns and join us as we explore the nuances of the mentor-mentee relationship. Our case-based discussions help participants discover new strategies to maximize the benefits of this career-enhancing skill. Open to investigators at any level from across the CCTS Partner Network. Registration requested, walk-ins welcome. Zoom available.
Jan. 30 | 11am-12pm | Shelby 318 | More

CCTS Drop-In Clinics
Join us for the fifth Wednesday Drop-In Clinics for free consultations in Biostats, Epidemiology and Research Design (BERD). No appointment necessary. Bring laptop and study related questions.
Jan. 30 | 11:30am-1pm | PCAMS | More

Special Topics in Clinical Trials (Research Seminar Series)
The CCTS Clinical Research Support Program team will present "UAB Research Pharmacy." CMEs will be provided for this one-hour session. Zoom available
Jan. 31 | 12-1pm | PCAMS | More

CCTS Friday Fellows Meeting
This meeting provides the opportunity for investigators, trainees, and others interested in population and health outcomes research to discuss best practices. Share your latest project in a supportive "discipline agnostic" environment; find new collaborators; develop
foundational skills in study design, outcomes measurement, and evaluation; and practice critical "soft" career skills such as public speaking, networking, and providing/accepting constructive feedback. Zoom available.

Feb. 1 | 8-9:30am | PCAMS | More

CCTS First Friday Mentoring Lunch
David Chaplin, Co-Director of the CCTS Training Academy, will discuss mentoring opportunities, challenges and advantages. No prerequisite for attendance. Registration required.

Feb. 1 | 12-1pm | PCAMS | More

Upcoming Events

FEBRUARY

Big Data Training for Translational Omics Research
Applications due Monday, Jan. 28
Feb. 4 - April 19 | Online Training Program

CCTS Drug Discovery Seminar Series: Overview of the Drug Discovery and Development Process
Feb. 4 | 12-1pm | PCAMS | Zoom Available

Case Studies in Mentoring: Cultivating Ethical Behaviors
Registration requested, walk-ins welcome
Feb. 6 | 11am-12pm | Shelby 318 | Zoom Available

Pulmonary Grand Rounds: CCTS and Translational Thinking
Feb. 7 | 12-1pm | Finley Conference Center

The Opioid Crisis and the Future of Addiction and Pain Therapeutics: Opportunities, Tools, and Technologies Symposium
Feb. 7-8 | NIH Campus | Bethesda, MD

CCTS Friday Fellows Meeting
Feb. 8 | 8-9:30am | PCAMS | Zoom Available

Informatics Institute PowerTalk Seminar Series: Privacy-preserving Techniques for Sharing and Analyzing Human Genomic Data
Feb. 8 | 10:15-11:30am | Shelby 515

TIERS - Work Smarter, Live Better: Tips for Sharpening the Saw - Time Management and Well Being
Registration requested
Feb. 8 | 11am-12pm | PCAMS | Zoom Available

CCTS Drug Discovery Seminar Series: Target Validation
Feb. 11 | 12-1pm | PCAMS | Zoom Available

CCTS Monthly Forum
Feb. 11 | 4-5:30pm | PCAMS | Zoom Available

Accessing Clinical Data for Research with i2b2
Registration required
Feb. 12 | 1-3pm | LRC 210A
Case Studies in Mentoring: Establishing an Authorship Policy
*Registration requested, walk-ins welcome*
Feb. 13 | 11am-12pm | Shelby 318 | Zoom Available

2019 Boshell Diabetes and Metabolic Diseases Research Day
Feb. 15 | 7:30am-6:30pm | The Hotel at Auburn University

**CCTS Friday Fellows Meeting**
Feb. 15 | 8-9:30am | PCAMS | Zoom Available

**CCTS Drug Discovery Seminar Series: How to Submit an IND**
Feb. 18 | 12-1pm | PCAMS | Zoom Available

Case Studies in Mentoring: Fostering Independence
*Registration requested, walk-ins welcome*
Feb. 20 | 11am-12pm | Shelby 318 | Zoom Available

**CCTS Translational Training Symposium**
*Registration required by February 1*
Feb. 20-21 | Intercontinental Hotel | New Orleans, LA

Southern Society for Clinical Investigation (SSCI) Southern Regional Meeting
*Registration required*
Feb. 21-23 | Intercontinental Hotel | New Orleans, LA

**CCTS Friday Fellows Meeting**
Feb. 22 | 8-9:30am | PCAMS | Zoom Available

Informatics Institute Powertalk Seminar Series: Keeping 'Bio' in Bioinformatics: Optimizing Analytical Approaches to Support Biological Understanding
Feb. 22 | 10:15-11:30am | Shelby 515

**CCTS Drug Discovery Seminar Series: Assay Development and High Throughput Screening**
Feb. 25 | 12-1pm | PCAMS | Zoom Available

Case Studies in Mentoring: Promoting Professional Development
*Registration requested, walk-ins welcome*
Feb. 27 | 11am-12pm | Shelby 318 | Zoom Available

Accessing Clinical Data for Research with i2b2
*Registration required*
Feb. 28 | 1-3pm | LRC 210A

**MARCH**

**CCTS Friday Fellows Meeting**
March 1 | 8-9:30am | PCAMS | Zoom Available

6th Annual Rare Disease Genomics Symposium: Population Genomics
*Registration required*
March 1 | 8am-3:45pm | Bradley Lecture Center | Children's of Alabama

**CCTS Drug Discovery Seminar Series: Intellectual Property in Drug Discovery**
March 4 | 12-1pm | PCAMS | Zoom Available

**CCTS Friday Fellows Meeting**
March 8 | 8-9:30am | PCAMS | Zoom Available
CCTS Friday Fellows Meeting  
March 15 | 8-9:30am | PCAMS | Zoom Available

Accessing Clinical Data for Research with i2b2  
*Registration required*
March 15 | 1-3pm | LRC 210A

CCTS Drug Discovery Seminar Series: Medicinal Chemistry - From Hit to Lead  
March 18 | 12-1pm | PCAMS | Zoom Available

CCTS Drug Discovery Seminar Series: Molecular Modeling  
March 25 | 12-1pm | PCAMS | Zoom Available

Complete listing of CCTS events