Expectations of CPCTP Fellows

All trainees are expected to:

1. **Attend NTR 728 each week** during the fall and spring semesters. This course is the primary method by which we educate our fellows, share information, and develop personal and professional relationships. This course is offered P/F. Because NTR 728 is tied so closely to the goals of our program, a failing grade is likely to result in removal from the T32 program, as this would indicate a severe failure to meet program expectations.

2. **Attend the weekly O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center Seminars**, which provide opportunities to learn about cutting-edge advances related to a wide variety of cancer research disciplines.

3. **Attend and present research findings at the annual O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center Research Retreat** (usually in October) and submit abstracts for poster presentations. Note that fellows in their first six months of their pre- or post-doctoral training may exempt out of the abstract submission requirement but are still required to attend the retreat.

4. **Hold annual meetings with at least one CPCTP Leader and your mentoring team.** These are typically held in August or September and are focused on discussing the fellow’s Individual Development Plan (IDP) including: research goals, productivity to date, problems encountered, and career aspirations. A **signed IDP must be submitted to Dr. Norian** by the end of September. Each spring, fellows have a mid-year evaluation with just their mentoring team and submit a revised IDP to Dr. Norian.

5. **Make continuous progress toward the goals outlined in your IDP documents.** **Pre-docs should publish 1-2 papers annually; post-docs should publish 2-3.** By the end of their graduate careers, pre-docs should have published 2-4 first-author papers plus another 3-5 co-authored publications. By the end of their training period, post-docs should have published 2-4 first-author papers and 4-6 co-authored publications.

6. **Attend and present your research at one or more regional, national, or international conferences annually.** CPCTP travel funds will help ensure that our fellows have the financial means to register for and attend conferences.

7. **Participate in the annual evaluation of our CPCTP program** by completing the confidential survey and proposing program improvements. Fellows are also expected to participate in group discussions held by our Internal and External Advisory Board members. Other meetings for informal discussion of CPCTP business may be held throughout the year.

8. **Post-docs are required to undergo mock review of an extramural grant application in Year 2 of funding.** Pre-docs submitting F grants (or similar) are encouraged to undergo mock review, but this is not required. The mock review provides an excellent opportunity to develop and hone a grant application prior to leaving the program. It provides learning opportunities for the fellow writing the grant application, as well as for the remainder of the fellows who benefit from learning how NIH study sections work. Two faculty mentors are asked to act as primary and secondary reviewers; one CPCTP fellow is asked to act as the tertiary reviewer. The fellows’ primary mentor should be present for the mock review, which will be conducted during NTR 728 class time.

9. **Complete an exit questionnaire and interview after CPCTP support is finished.**

10. **Maintain contact with the CPCTP Program** for at least 10 years after completing CPCTP support. This is done in part by completing post-training questionnaires in the second and fifth years after finishing CPCTP support. This information is needed for our continued T32 program funding through the NCI.