

February 4, 2019



**CCTS DIGEST**  
Center for Clinical and Translational Science

Providing solutions to sharpen science, improve human health, and address disparities and diseases disproportionately represented within the Deep South.



### Did You Know?

CCTS is accepting nominations for a travel award that will enable one lucky translational researcher to attend the next Center for Leading Innovation & Collaboration (CLIC) "Un-Meeting." Co-hosted by UF's CTSI and Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, "Rural Health and Health Equity" will take place on Monday, April 8, in Gainesville, FL. "Un-meetings" use an unstructured format that fosters "water cooler" discussions by multidisciplinary stakeholders to generate new ideas, connections, and partnerships. Although only one travel award is available per CTSA Program Hub, CCTS encourages all investigators with an interest in improving rural health and increasing health equity to consider this unique opportunity to shape the research agenda. Send your nomination (self-nominations welcome) to [Dr. Jennifer Croker](#), CCTS Director of Administration and Fiscal Affairs, by **Monday, February 11**. [More](#)

## News/Announcements



### U-BRITE Day Demonstrates Value of Informatics Tools for Breaking Down Scientific Data Siloes

Co-sponsored by UAB Informatics Institute and the CCTS, the inaugural UAB-Biomedical Research Infrastructure Technology Enhancement (U-BRITE) Day featured "proof of concept" translational research projects that demonstrated the value of HIPAA-compliant, high-performance informatics tools for merging, managing, and analyzing clinical and genomic data sets. The emergent U-BRITE platform also offers a "translational research commons" component that enables interdisciplinary team science regardless of geographic location. [More](#)



### CCTS Welcomes 2019 CTSTP Cohort

The CCTS Clinical and Translational Science Training Program (CTSTP) kicked off this month with one of our most diverse and multidisciplinary groups of participants ever, including 13 trainees from CCTS Partner Network institutions who are engaging virtually. All of the trainees will emerge from this career-changing six-month learning opportunity certified in the latest clinical and translational science competencies. [More](#)

### CCTS Partners Launch New Genomic Medicine Research Program for Undergrads

The Summer Undergraduate Research Experience in Genomic Medicine (SURE-GM), a collaboration between UAB Dept. of

Genetics and HudsonAlpha Institute for Biotechnology (HA) aimed at increasing diversity in the biomedical, behavioral, and clinical research workforce, offers rising juniors a unique opportunity to spend two summers learning about genetics and genomics. Eligible students, who must be from an underrepresented racial or ethnic groups and currently enrolled at an Alabama HBCU, also receive a stipend and housing. **Apply by February 15** for 2019-20 program. [More](#)



### Encourage a High Schooler in Your Life to Register for the Alabama Brain Bee!

On Saturday, February 23, UAB will host the 8th Annual Alabama Brain Bee, an incredible opportunity for high school students to learn about neuroscience, win prizes, and perhaps move on to the U.S. National Brain Bee competition (where winners of the Alabama Brain Bee have placed in the top 3 for the past two years). There is no entrance fee, and the competition is open to any Alabama students in grades 9-12. [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](#)



### **Basic and Translational Science in Heart Failure T32 Training Program**

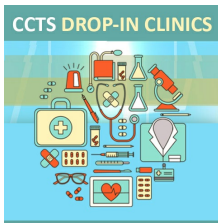
UAB announces the availability of two fellowship positions for post-doctoral (PhD) and clinical (MD) fellows wishing to train in the broad area of heart failure. This is an ideal opportunity to obtain scientific publications and intellectual development that will lay the foundation for future success as an independent scientist. UAB's well-established NIH-funded investigators will provide a mentored experience critical to early career development. **Applications due 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**

#### **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.

**Feb. 4 | 10am-2pm | Edge of Chaos | [More](#)**



### **CCTS Drug Discovery Seminar Series**

#### **CCTS Drug Discovery Seminar Series**

Join us as Maaïke Everts, PhD, Associate Director of Alabama Drug Discovery Alliance, kicks off the 2019 seminar series with an "Overview of the Drug Discovery and Development Process." Cosponsored by CCTS Partners UAB and Southern Research. Zoom Available.

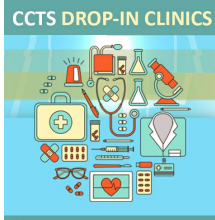
**Feb. 4 | 12-1pm | PCAMS | [More](#)**



#### **Case Studies in Mentoring: Cultivating Ethical Behaviors**

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.

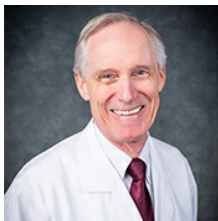
**Feb. 6 | 11am-12pm | Shelby 318 | [More](#)**



### CCTS Drop-In Clinics

Join us for the first Wednesday Drop-In Clinics for free consultations in Biostats, Epidemiology and Research Design (BERD), Biorepository, Bionutrition, and Clinical Research Unit (CRU). No appointment necessary. Bring laptop and study related questions.

**Feb. 6 | 11:30am-1pm | PCAMS | [More](#)**



### Pulmonary Grand Rounds

Robert P. Kimberly, MD, Howard L. Holley Professor of Medicine, Senior Associate Dean for Clinical and Translational Research, and Director of CCTS, will discuss "CCTS and Translational Thinking." Lunch provided.

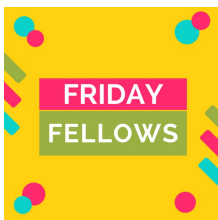
**Feb. 7 | 12-1pm | Finley Conference Center | [More](#)**



### The Opioid Crisis and the Future of Addiction and Pain Therapeutics: Opportunities, Tools, and Technologies Symposium

NCATS, in collaboration with the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) and National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS), will highlight challenges and opportunities in the pre-competitive, preclinical stage of development for addiction- and pain-related medications and provide a framework for more focused efforts within the research community.

**Feb. 7-8 | NIH Campus | Bethesda, MD | [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. 8 | 8-9:30am | PCAMS | [More](#)**



### Informatics Institute Powertalk Seminar Series

Haixu Tang, PhD, Director of Data Science Academic Programs and Professor of Informatics and Computing at Indiana University Bloomington, will discuss "Privacy-Preserving Techniques for Sharing and Analyzing Human Genomic Data."

**Feb. 8 | 10:15-11:30am | Shelby 515 | [More](#)**



### Training Interdisciplinary & Emerging Research Scholars (TIERS)

Jean Ann Larson, FACHE, LFHIMSS, FIISE, Chief Leadership Development Officer for UAB Health Systems & School of Medicine, will discuss "Work Smarter, Live Better: Tips for Sharpening the Saw - Time Management and Well Being." **Registration requested.** Zoom Available.

**Feb. 8 | 11am-12pm | PCAMS | [More](#)**



### Health Sciences Entrepreneurship Seminar Series

Michael S. Kay, MD, PhD, Professor of Biochemistry in the School of Medicine and Director of the Biological Chemistry Graduate Program at the University of Utah, will discuss "D-peptide Inhibitors: Empowering Nature's Fragile Warriors."

Feb. 8 | 1-2pm | Webinar | [More](#)

## Upcoming Events

### FEBRUARY

#### 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

#### 12th Annual 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

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

#### Alabama Brain Bee

*Registration required*

Feb. 23 | 9:30am | UAB Campus

#### 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**