

CTSA EDUCATION, TRAINING AND CAREER DEVELOPMENT STEERING COMMITTEE REPORT

April 20, 2007

Introductions

Representatives from the twelve Clinical and Translational Science Award sites joined trans-NIH staff at the meeting center of the National Center for Research Resources in Bethesda, Maryland on Friday, 20 April 2007. Dr. Louise Ramm, Deputy Director of NCRP welcomed the committee members and turned the program over to, David Wilde, M.D., Ph.D.

After brief introductions, Dr. Wilde instructed the group about the Steering Committee nomination procedures and identified Dr. Sherine Gabriel as the Interim Chair. Following discussion a 2 – 3 year term of appointment was suggested by the CTSA committee members. Subsequent meetings via webcast were also recommended with dates to be considered at 2-3 month intervals.

Agenda Item: Site Presentations

Each CTSA program representative provided a synopsis of their institution's progress in launching the TL1/KL2 Education and Career development training slots. All sites except for Rockefeller University have both KL2 and TL1 trainees. Rockefeller University does not have a TL1 program.

Agenda Item: Discussion Forum

National Meeting

CTSA committee members requested the need to have a national educational and career development meeting which would include TL1 trainees and KL2 scholars. The meeting should have a scientific focus and ideally take place in the DC metropolitan area to facilitate NIH participation.

Both the American Science Clinical Investigator's Meeting [ASCI] and the Association of Clinical Research Training Program Directors [ACRT] may provide venues to partner with the national meeting. Private-public partnerships that may leverage social networking technology was also discussed as a meeting focus. Dr. Wishwa Kapoor urged that the planning for the meeting should begin expeditiously.

Retention of Clinical Research Trainees (inclusive)

Discussion focused on the need to address the manner that multidisciplinary research is reviewed as part of the peer review process at NIH. The study sections of categorical institutes should have a representative sample of experts on their review panel that span across clinical and scientific disciplines.

Another topical area of discussion was the suggestion to remove the percent effort caps or limitations on career development awards. The institution should apply their discretion in deciding what percent effort is appropriate for its trainee and also have the flexibility to adjust the effort as indicated.

The Most Vulnerable Career Time point for Trainees (inclusive)

The transition from K to R(01) appeared to be the most susceptible time to lose clinical research investigators based on the consensus of the committee members. Even when the trainee receives her first R award the need for mentoring is still critical for launching a successful career in clinical research.

The postdoctoral NIH imposed limitation on trainees may further hinder attempts to protect promising trainees at a time when they are most vulnerable in trying to obtain independent funding. The aggregate limitation of 5 – 6 years for K awards should be reconsidered since this may not provide enough time to establish an independent research career.

Agenda Item: Wrap up and Action Points

The CTSA committee members were tasked with compiling a list of five (5) possible platforms for change to present to the NIH committee members for discussion and follow-up action. Transitioning from K to R appeared to be the most important topic voiced by many CTSA members.

CTSA Steering Committee Members in Attendance at the 20 April 2007 Meeting

CTSA Awardees

*Sherine Gabriel, M.D. Msc , Interim
Chair*

William J. Charles H Mayo Professor,
Professor of Medicine, Chair of
Department
of Health Sciences Research, Co-PI and
Director of Education Mayo Clinic
Mayo Clinic College of Medicine

Razelle Kurzrock, M.D., FACP

Professor of Medicine
University of Texas Health Sciences
Center at Houston

Wishwa Kapoor, M.D., M.P.H

Falk Professor of Medicine; Director,
Institute
for Clinical Research Education; Chief,
Division of General Internal Medicine
University of Pittsburgh

Cynthia Morris, Ph.D., M.P.H

Assistant Dean; Professor and Vice
Chair
Medical Informatics and Clinical
Epidemiology
Oregon Health & Sciences University

Eugene Z. Oddone, M.D., MHSc

Director, Clinical Research Training
Program at Duke
Duke University

Thomas Pearson, M.P.H, Ph.D.

Albert D. Kaiser Professor and Chair
Rochester University

Sarah J. Schlesinger, M.D.

Research Associate Professor
Rockefeller University

Karen Teff, Ph.D.

IDOM Associate Director
Director, Translational Research
Program
University of Pennsylvania

NIH- Staff

*Krishan Arora
NCRR*

*Mimi Ghim
NIDA*

*Kevin Hardwick
NIDCR*

*Anthony Hayward
NCRR*

*Carol Merchant
NCRR*

*Laura Moen
NIDDK*

*Fred Ognibene
NCC*

*Peter Preusch
NIH/OD/OER*

*Louise Ramm
NCRR*

*Andrea Sawczuk
NCRR*

*Bert Shapiro
NIGMS*

*Carol Shreffler
NIEHS*

*Bernard Talbot
NCRR*

*Meredith Temple-O'Connor
NIGMS*

*David Wilde
NCRR*