

**CTSA Education/Career Development  
Key Function Committee Teleconference  
Meeting Summary  
August 5, 2009**

**Welcome**

Dr. Fred Meyers (University of California Davis) provided the formal welcome for the meeting.

**NIH Clinical Center Visit**

Dr. Gary Hunninghake (University of Iowa) summarized the July 21, 2009 NIH Clinical Center Visit. The purpose of the visit was for members of the Strategic Goal 2 and the NIH to discuss the plan for building a virtual training center. The first discussion centered on the IT structure that is necessary to build and host the virtual training center and the second discussion centered on the core competencies. The third part of the discussion focused on career mentoring for which University of Wisconsin has been awarded a supplement grant to define mentoring competencies and relevant workshops and seminars. One of the decisions made at the meeting is to draft a white paper to develop compelling business cases for career mentoring. The paper will discuss retention, returns on investment, meeting objectives, and strategies for gaining support from home institutions.

**National CTSA Educational Resource Program (NCERP)**

The University of Rochester [PI- Thomas Pearson] was awarded an administrative supplement (2008) to develop the National CTSA Educational Resource Program (NCERP). The pilot project has been completed and the final product is posted on the CTSAWeb.org website (temporarily). The website (<http://www.rochesterctsa.org/ncerp/search/>), lists 82 courses (collected from CTSA sites and the NIH). The website operates like a “dating service” whereby someone searches for courses and is directed to contact information to pursue the course. No course materials (other than the occasional syllabus) are available on the site. The website has been active for four weeks and has had 1000 hits.

**Call for Contributing Editors: Science Translational Medicine**

Dr. Kelly LaMarco, Senior Editor, Science Translational Medicine joined the teleconference as a guest speaker to discuss a new opportunity available to the CTSA Consortium. Following the meeting, a “call for contributing editors” was disseminated to the Committee, which read: “Science/AAAS’s new journal, Science Translational Medicine, and its Chief Scientific Advisor Dr. Elias Zerhouni invite CTSA Principal Investigators and Mentors to nominate outstanding CTSA trainees to become Associate Contributing Editors for the journal. With this program Sci TM seeks to build connections with the community of trainees in translational medicine and to provide to them opportunities for critical thinking and scientific communication early in their careers.” The program is open to KL2 fellows, other career development awardees with K awards, and T32 and other postdoctoral fellows. “Selected nominees will: be recognized on the masthead of Science Translational Medicine; -participate in the development of the journal’s weekly Editor’s Choice section; gain experience in critically evaluating the literature; develop the ability to clearly communicate scientific information; have their summaries published in Science Translational Medicine; serve as an Advisory Board member for the journal on matters of policy and content. Through expert editorial instruction, participants will get specific feedback and improve their general writing skills, learning to write in a clear, broadly accessible style.” Each Contributing Editor can expect to have approximately 10-15 of their summaries appear in the journal each year. Please send your nominations, contact information, and Curriculum vitae of your nominees to Cynthia D. Morris, PhD, MPH c/o Annette Vu at [vua@ohsu.edu](mailto:vua@ohsu.edu). The deadline is September 15, 2009.

**National ACRT/CTSA meeting April 2010**

Dr. Doris Rubio provided an update regarding the national ACRT meeting taking place April 6-7, 2010 at Wardman Park Hotel in Washington, DC. There are currently approximately 8 planned sessions for

educators and 8 planned sessions for scholars. The sessions will cover, among other things, comparative effectiveness research (CER), health disparities, and epidemiology. Faculty members are needed to serve on each committee. Please also nominate a scholar from your respective institution to serve on the scholar planning committee. Contact Dr. Rubio ([rubidm@UPMC.EDU](mailto:rubidm@UPMC.EDU)) if you are interested in joining the planning committee or serving on any of the other committees. Dr. Rubio added that “this will prove to be an exciting year with the partnership with the Society for Clinical and Translational Science (SCTS).”

### **Role of CTSA in Basic Science Departments**

If you are interested in networking on the topic of how CTSA's are working with basic science departments to prepare translational scientists, please contact Dr. Dean Li from The University of Utah [dean.li@hmbg.utah.edu](mailto:dean.li@hmbg.utah.edu).

### **ARRA Supplement Updates**

Dr. Carol Merchant introduced Dr. Harold Pincus (Columbia) and invited him to discuss the awarded ARRA supplement. The effort, which represents collaboration among RAND, Columbia, University of Pittsburgh, and University of Wisconsin, will focus on assessing and developing tools on institutional mentoring across CTSA's. There will also be an emphasis on assessing institutional leaders who can enhance mentoring. The project team will create web based assessment tools to evaluate the institution's mentoring programs. A web based survey is also planned to equip mentees with a mechanism to assess satisfaction of mentoring. Additional updates will be available at future meetings.

### **Action Items**

1. Add ARRA supplements to September 2, 2009 Agenda.
2. Develop a one page flyer calling for contributing editors.