Distinguished University Professorship awarded to collaborative medicine pioneer Kurt Stange

Congratulations to Dr. Kurt Stange for receiving a Distinguished University Professorship! He is the Research & Development Mentor in the CTSC Practice Based Research Network (PBRN), and a member of the CTSC Executive Steering Committee.

The permanent, honorific title recognizes the outstanding contributions of full-time, tenured professors with exceptional academic records of research, scholarship, teaching and service. Stange says that the award is a humbling recognition of longstanding relationships built in 26 years at Case Western Reserve. He notes in particular "how easy it is to collaborate across departments, schools, and with groups."

Stange has created partnerships not only across every school at Case Western Reserve, but also between the university and community partners. Specifically, he has worked to advance cooperation among disparate factions in research, and has taken strides to create a venue that encourages all involved parties to consider research relevant to health care policy and interventions. The Cancer Center and Clinical & Translational Science Collaborative have been important recent partners in these efforts.

Read more at http://thedaily.case.edu/news/?p=31468

News

Congratulations to the July 2014 CTSC Core Utilization Pilot Award Recipients

Zhaoyang Feng, PhD
Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine
"GRP78 as a diagnostic biomarker of Parkinson's Disease: a pilot study"
NIH Biosketch Changes Coming Soon

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) has initiated a second round of pilots to assess a planned modification of the NIH Biographical Sketch (Biosketch).

The NIH believes that the modified biosketch will offer reviewers a better picture of a researcher's accomplishments and capabilities, and will help illuminate the downstream effects of scientific discovery.

In a recent blog post, Sally Rockey, NIH's Deputy Director for Extramural Research, said, "We strongly believe that allowing a researcher to generate an account of his or her own work will provide a clearer picture of each individual's contributions and capabilities. But one might question whether this new biosketch will have a negative impact on younger investigators whose body of work may not be as robust as more established investigators. I believe the contrary is true; this new format will give early career investigators a platform for describing and framing the significance of their contributions, which should help reviewers better understand their accomplishments without having to rely simply on a list of publications."

During the pilot, researchers will use existing resources to create biosketches using the new format, but starting this coming fall, the SciENcv system will be modified to help researchers generate biosketches in the new format.

Read more here and read Rockey's full post here.

Download the Biosketch Sample here.
Download the Biosketch Template here.

Spring 2015 CRSP Courses

Dear Program Directors, Department Chairs, Doctors, Scholars, Faculty, and Students:

The Clinical Research Scholars Program (CRSP) has many educational, informative, relevant, and wonderful spring courses that may be of interest to you.

The following is a list of the CRSP courses offered this spring:

- CRSP 412, Communication in Clinical Research - Grant Writing
- CRSP 502, Leadership Skills for Clinical Research Teams
- CRSP 504, Managing Research Records
- CRSP 505, Investigating Social Determinants in Health
- CRSP 550, Meta-Analysis & Evidence Synthesis

We would like to make you aware of the NEW course offered in the Clinical Research Scholars Program (CRSP), Meta-Analysis and Evidence Synthesis, CRSP 550, will soon be open for enrollment for the Spring 2015 semester.

Purpose:

- To introduce students to the methods of conducting high quality systematic review
- To prepare students to conduct their own systematic review or evaluate the systematic reviews of others

Who should apply?
The course is geared towards clinicians (physicians, nurses, dentists, pharmacists, etc.), other health-science professionals and students, and basic science researchers who are interested in conducting clinical research or collaborating with other clinician-scientists who conduct clinical research.

Major topics:

- Developing a search strategy
- Abstracting key data
- Synthesizing the results qualitatively
- Meta-analytic techniques
- Grading the quality of studies
- Grading the strength of the evidence
- Manuscript preparation specific to systematic review
When and Where:
- January 12, 2015 through April 27, 2015
- Wednesdays from 9:00 am - 11:00 am
- Wolstein Research Building in Rooms WRB 6136

Requirement:
Students must have taken either CRSP 401, MPHP 405, EPBI 431, NURS 532, or equivalent, and the instructor's consent.

Please contact Angela Bowling at axb710@case.edu or ccieducation@case.edu or 216-368-2601 for additional information.

NIH Public Access Policy Enforcement - Update

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) policy which states that on grant awards with a start date of July 1, 2013 and beyond it will delay award processing if publications arising from it are not in compliance with the NIH's public access policy.

Currently, CWRU has 897 articles that are not fully compliant with the NIH Public Access Policy. Our institutional compliance rate is 86%.

We encourage researchers to contact the representatives from the Cleveland Health Sciences Library to enhance our institutional compliance with this mandate. Representatives are also available to conduct training sessions for departments or groups. For more information on training sessions or individual assistance, please contact Kathleen Blazar, MSLS, Interim Director, at (216) 368-1361 or kcb2@case.edu.

NIH Revises Policy on Individual Development Plans in Progress Reports

National Institutes of Health (NIH) annual progress reports received on/after October 1, 2014 must include a section to describe how individual development plans (IDPs) are used to identify and promote the career goals of graduate students and postdoctoral researchers associated with the award.


The Ohio Clinical Trial Collaborative (OCTC)

The Ohio Clinical Trials Collaborative OCTC is developing partnerships with the drug industry to include biotech and pharmaceutical industries to perform clinical drug trials in phase I through IV. The OCTC is a network of Ohio based hospitals led by working groups in areas such as neuro-oncology, pediatrics, infectious disease, and neuroscience. The OCTC was launched at the BIO2014 which was attended by 15,000 biotech and pharmaceutical executives in San Diego resulting in numerous leads for potential drug trials.

The OCTC has plans to attend additional biotech and pharmaceuticals shows. The OCTC is looking for additional working groups interested in developing a sell sheet that can then be searched on the World Wide Web and will begin sales and marketing activities to identify opportunities with industry. If there are companies that individuals would like OCTC to target, the group welcomes that feedback.


Contact Joe Peter at 216-368-5756 for more information.

Research Highlights

Population Health and Outcomes Research Core

In collaboration with a number of investigators from within and outside of CWRU, researchers from the Population Health and Outcomes Research Core received funding from the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) to study...
Nicholas Schiltz, PhD
Siran Koroukian, PhD
Paul Bakaki, MD, PhD
Kimberly Bess, PhD.

for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) to study multiple chronic conditions (MCC) in older adults. Using a unique data resource, developed by linking records from the Health and Retirement Study and Medicare enrollment and claims data, they will identify the most frequent combinations of chronic conditions, especially as they relate to health services utilization patterns, costs, and mortality.

This study is unique from a number of perspectives. First, instead of relying on the presence of chronic conditions only, the definition of MCC will account for the occurrence and co-occurrence of functional limitations and geriatric syndromes, such as cognitive deficits and sensory impairments. Second, rather than using traditional approaches to analysis, the researchers will use data mining techniques that will make it possible to account for a very high number of possible combinations of conditions and select the ones that are most relevant to the outcome(s) of interest.

The findings will show the importance of a more comprehensive and personalized approach when characterizing patients with MCC. In addition, as we identify subgroups of patients with MCC with high risk for poor outcomes and high resource use, it will be possible to design targeted interventions to better meet these patients’ health care needs and to curtail health care utilization.

For more information on using the linked Health and Retirement Study and Medicare data to address various research questions, investigators may contact Dr. Koroukian (skoroukian@case.edu). Read more.

Events

PRCHN Seminar Series:
Social Network Analysis: Building Community Health and Relational Well-being
Wednesday, September 10th, 12:00-1:15 PM
PRCHN Ground Floor Conference Room
BioEnterprise Building, 11000 Cedar Avenue

In the age of Facebook and Twitter, there is no question that social connections matter, but how? Dr. Bess will explore the ways in which social network analysis, as a paradigm and a method, can be used to better understand the relational aspects of individual and community health and well-being. Dr. Bess will introduce foundational social network concepts and discuss them in relation to findings from two social network studies using different levels of analysis and approach, illustrating the important contributions social network analysis can make to understanding the relational dynamics within communities, informing local intervention systems, and improving the lives of individuals in concrete ways.

Dr. Bess trained as a community psychologist and studies the role community-based organizations play in improving the health, educational, and social outcomes of children and families living in high-poverty communities. She is an
CWRU Biomedical & Health Informatics Workshop
September 16-17, 2014

Case Western Reserve University invites you to a special two-day workshop on Biomedical and Health Informatics, to be held Tuesday and Wednesday September 16-17, 2014 at the new Tinkham Veale University Center on the CWRU campus.

This workshop brings together industry, academia, and health care organizations in an educational forum to examine contemporary issues in biomedical and health informatics and the grand challenges we must tackle that will enable improved patient care.

Two-day registration fee is $195.00 and includes program materials, meals, and reception.

For more information and registration go to: http://bme.case.edu/workshop

Save the Date: PRCHN Five Year Anniversary!
Monday, October 6, 2014 | 3:30pm-5:30pm

Please mark your calendar and join the Prevention Research Center for Healthy Neighborhoods on Monday, October 6th, 2014 to celebrate the partnerships and accomplishments of our first 5 years... And the next 5!

PRCHN Kickoff Reception
October 6, 2014
3:30-5:30 pm
The Iris S. and Bert L. Wolstein Research Building
Case Western Reserve University
Valet parking available

Please RSVP by September 14 to: PRCHN2014Launch@gmail.com

Diversity in Research
October 8th and November 19th

Wednesday, October 8
10-11:30 am
Kelvin Smith Library, LL06 A/B/C

Wednesday, November 19
2-3:30 pm
Biomedical Research Building, Room 105

4 CREC

Diversity in Research explores the scientific, ethical, and legal bases for the inclusion of diverse participants in research and the recruitment and hiring of diverse research staff. Potential barriers to diversity in the research context are discussed.

This workshop meets the requirements of the CWRU Office of Inclusion, Diversity, and Equal Opportunity (OIDEO) for participation on CWRU search committees.

Registration is online at: http://research.case.edu/Education/Onlinecalendar.cfm

Research @ CWRU: A boot camp for investigators

For all university faculty:
Wednesday, October 29 ~ Adelbert Hall, Toepfer Room ~ 2:30-4 pm
Monday, November 10 ~ Kelvin Smith Library, Room 215 ~ 2:30-4 pm

For School of Medicine faculty:
Wednesday, November 12 ~ Wolstein Research Building, Room 1403 ~ 9-10:30 am

The Office of Research Administration welcomes all new faculty to attend this 90-minute orientation designed to help navigate the university’s research grant and regulatory compliance processes and policies. Research Administration staff members will share the essential information new faculty need to know to ensure the successful execution of research grants.
university's internal procedures and attendees will receive a binder of helpful information to take away from the presentation. There will be plenty of time for questions.

New faculty are specifically invited, but all faculty are welcome to attend.

Registration is online at: http://research.case.edu/Education/Onlinecalendar.cfm.

Research Opportunities

KL2 Career Development Program 2015
Recruiting Period: July 1 - October 27, 2014

Congratulations to the following, who were selected from a highly competitive pool of applicants, as clinical scholars within the Clinical & Translational Science Collaborative (CTSC) KL2 career development program starting July 1, 2014:

Yong Chen, PhD (Radiology, CWRU)
Glen Taksler, PhD (Medicine, CCF)
Kathy Wright, PhD (Nursing, CWRU Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing)
Jennifer Yu, MD, PhD (Radiation Oncology, Stem Cell Biology, CCF)

Applications are now being accepted for next year’s awardees, who would begin July 1, 2015.

Qualified candidates are being offered an opportunity to apply to an innovative career development program whose purpose is to train clinician investigators. The CTSC KL2 is designed to train the nation’s future leaders in clinical and translational research, and is part of the NIH Roadmap aimed at “re-engineering the clinical research enterprise.” Each scholar will embark on a 4 year program of intensive training in multidisciplinary team-based, patient-oriented clinical research, combining an innovative curriculum with mentored research experiences.

Qualified candidates:

- Hold an M.D., Ph.D., D.D.S., Pharm.D., Psy.D. or an equivalent degree
- Have demonstrated a keen interest in clinical research
- Need to hold a position in one of the CTSC partner Institutions on or before July 1, 2015
- Are U.S. citizens or have permanent resident status

Applications are encouraged from physicians, nurses, dentists, social and behavioral scientists, engineers, biostatisticians, epidemiologists, bioethicists and other professionals with expertise relevant to clinical research.

Successful applicants will receive a comprehensive package including:

- Salary and benefits commensurate with their qualifications supporting 75% effort
- Research stipend
- Tuition benefits for an innovative didactic program leading to a degree in clinical investigation (half of which will come from a Departmental cost-share)
- Travel funds
- Access to a multidisciplinary pool of highly accomplished mentors who will guide their research projects
- CWRU appointment

The competitive applicant will be at an early career stage, e.g. senior postdoctoral fellow, instructor, or entry level faculty member, and will need to explain through the application how the program will enable a successful career in clinical research.

We are especially seeking qualified applicants from under represented populations.

Please visit our website for more information: http://casemed.case.edu/ctsc/education/kl2/

For questions or assistance, please contact Beth Spyke, MPA at spykeb@ccf.org or 216-444-2702.

The Clinical and Translational Science Collaborative (CTSC) of Cleveland provides developmental, organizational, financial, and educational support to biomedical researchers as well as opportunities for community members to participate in meaningful and valuable research.

CTSC KL2 Upcoming Informational Meetings (reservations requested):

Cleveland Clinic:
September 10, 2014
2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
AHRQ Announces Continued Interest in Patient-Centered Outcomes Research (PCOR) Career Development Awards

With this Notice, AHRQ announces its continued interest in supporting individual Patient Centered Outcomes Research (PCOR) career development awards. AHRQ has two Funding Opportunity Announcements (FOAs) currently accepting applications, which can be found at:

- AHRQ Patient-Centered Outcomes Research (PCOR) Mentored Clinical Investigator Award (K08), PA-13-180
- AHRQ Patient-Centered Outcomes Research (PCOR) Mentored Research Scientist Development Award (K01), PA-13-181

Background and Research Areas of Interest
The mission of the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) is to produce evidence to make health care safer, higher quality, more accessible, equitable, and affordable, and to work within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Service (HHS) and with other partners to make sure that the evidence is understood and used.

The overall goal of the AHRQ PCOR Career Development Program is to build the nation's capacity for comparative clinical effectiveness research.

Improving Health Care Quality by Accelerating Implementation of PCOR
Within the mission, AHRQ seeks research that will help to improve the health and health care of all by accelerating the use of evidence about 'what works, for whom, under what circumstances' into clinical practice and health care policy development. Research should focus on ensuring that patients and their families, health care professionals, and health care policy makers have the information they need in order to make informed health care decisions and are able and empowered to use it.

Specifically, AHRQ areas of PCOR research interest include:

- Demonstrating the effectiveness of synthesizing, translating, and communicating complex scientific evidence to facilitate informed care planning and health care decision making by patients, families, and health care professionals at the individual level and informed policy decision making at the health system and population level.
- Discovering, testing, and spreading techniques for health care practice improvement to improve health care quality, including accelerating the sustainable implementation of evidence-based practice. AHRQ has particular interest in practice improvement in ambulatory care settings.
- Improving health care quality through the use of information systems and data resources that both provide meaningful clinical decision support to health care professionals and patients and families at the point of care and that capture important actions and outcomes of health care to support clinical and organizational improvement.
- Developing the methods underlying the fields of evidence synthesis, stakeholder and patient engagement, decision making, and practice improvement.

Further Guidance

Use of Funding Mechanisms. AHRQ will use its standing PCOR individual career development grant opportunities for K01 and K08 awards as indicated above. To learn more about AHRQ’s research training funding announcements, visit their website.

Timeline Limitations. Career development grants will be funded for a project period of 3 to 5 years.

Application Submission. With this notice, AHRQ is providing information about one of the highest research priorities for grant applications. AHRQ will continue to provide regular updates of research priorities as research budget information becomes available. Grant applications focused on areas identified in this Notice should be submitted on regular research career development receipt dates and will be reviewed by AHRQ’s standing study sections. Information about the grant application process, including e-grant applications and the funding mechanisms noted above, can be found here.
Applicants are encouraged to use relevant AHRQ, DHHS, and federal and non-federal public and private data resources to support these research efforts. Examples of such data may be the MEPS, HCUP, National Health Interview Survey (NHIS), Medicare and Medicaid data resources and other Departmental data resources.

Please direct all inquiries to:
Kay Anderson, Ph.D.
Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ)
Office of Extramural Research, Education, and Priority Populations
Division of Research Education
Telephone: 301-427-1555
Email: Kay.Anderson@ahrq.hhs.gov

See more information here.

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**AAAS: Marion Milligan Mason Award for Women in the Chemical Sciences**

**Deadline: September 15, 2014**

The American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) has announced a new grant opportunity --- the Marion Milligan Mason Award for Women in the Chemical Sciences.

The objective of the Mason Award is to kick-start the research career of promising future senior investigators in the chemical sciences. The Marion Milligan Mason Fund will provide three grants of $50,000 every other year to women researchers engaged in basic research in the chemical sciences. Awards are for women who are starting their academic research careers. In addition to research funding, the program will provide leadership development and mentoring opportunities.

Applicants must have a "full-time" career-track appointment. More than one applicant from the same institution can apply for this award, provided that each application is scientifically distinct.

Please contact Sandie Moster at sjm127@case.edu if you plan to pursue this opportunity. For additional information, visit the AAAS website.

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**National Cancer Institute (NCI): Outstanding Investigator Award (OIA)**

**Letter of Intent due September 20th, Application due October 20th by 5:00pm**

The NCI is pleased to announce the Outstanding Investigator Award (OIA) funding opportunity announcement: PAR-14-267. The OIA will support investigators with outstanding records of productivity in cancer research with up to $600,000 in direct costs per year for 7 years to provide funding stability. NCI anticipates making about 50 awards annually.

The OIA will allow funded investigators the freedom to embark on long-term projects of unusual potential in cancer research; the opportunity to take greater risks and be more adventurous in their lines of inquiry; and sufficient time to develop new techniques.

Applications must be submitted by Institutions who have nominated a Program Director/Principal Investigator (PD/PI) with outstanding productivity in cancer research as a recipient of NCI grant(s) for at least the past 5 years. The PD/PI will be expected to commit at least 50% of his/her research activities to the OIA; the Institution will be expected to commit at least 20% salary support.

For more information, please see: PAR-14-267 on the NCI website.

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**Call for Proposals: Awards for Pediatric Device Projects**

The organizers of the 2nd Annual Symposium for Pediatric Surgical Innovation and Competition judges are seeking proposals from inventors in medical institutions, private practices, device companies, and academic researchers who have medical device concepts or ideas for use with pediatric patients.

Proposals should address a significant, yet unmet need within the pediatric population with a device idea that lends itself to commercialization. Following the competition process, two prizes will be given, each for up to $50,000.
The Department of Defense has announced the following pre-announcements:

**Gulf War Illness Research Program (GWIRP)**

The Fiscal Year 2014 (FY14) Defense Appropriations Act provides $20 million (M) to the Department of Defense Gulf War Illness Research Program (GWIRP) to support innovative, high-impact research to improve the health and lives of veterans who served in the Gulf War.

Please follow this link to review the submission guidelines and to submit your application online by September 22, 2014 at 17:00 EST.

In honor of the people of Abu Dhabi, whose vision and generosity created the Sheikh Zayed Institute for Pediatric Surgical Innovation, the two available prizes are named the Sheikh Zayed Prize for Pediatric Device Innovation. The awards are sponsored by the Sheikh Zayed Institute for Pediatric Surgical Innovation and the Symposium’s prime sponsor to be announced.

The Competition session is sponsored and moderated by the law firm of Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati.

Early Bird Registration is Still Open - Click Here to Register Now.

**NEW Limited Submission: Burroughs Welcome Fund - Investigators in the Pathogenesis of Infectious Disease**

Key Deadlines: September 22, 2014, 5:00pm (CWRU Letter of Intent), November 3, 2014, 4:00pm EST (external application).

This Burroughs Wellcome Fund award is a limited funding opportunity for assistant professors from Case, UH, Metro and the Cleveland Clinic.

This award provides $500,000 over a period of five years to support accomplished investigators at the assistant professor level to study pathogenesis, with a focus on the interplay between human and microbial biology, shedding light on how human and microbial systems are affected by their encounters. The awards are intended to give recipients the freedom and flexibility to pursue new avenues of inquiry and higher-risk research projects that hold potential for significantly advancing the biochemical, pharmacological, immunological, and molecular biological understanding of how microbes and the human body interact.

The Investigators in the Pathogenesis of Infectious Disease program provides opportunities for assistant professors to bring multidisciplinary approaches to the study of human infectious diseases. The goal of the program is to provide opportunities for accomplished investigators still early in their careers to study what happens at the points where human and microbial systems connect. The program supports research that sheds light on the fundamentals that affect the outcomes of this encounter: how colonization, infection, commensalism and other relationships play out at levels ranging from molecular interactions to systemic ones.

For more information on this limited submission opportunity, visit the Office of Research Administration website.

**Department of Health and Human Services Funding Opportunities**


NINDS CREATE Devices: Translational and Early Feasibility Studies on the Path to Pre-Market Approval (PMA) or Humanitarian Device Exemption (HDE) (UH2/UH3) Grant: Learn More.

NINDS CREATE Devices: Translational and Clinical Studies on the Path to 510(k) (UH2/UH3) Grant: Learn More.

**Department of Defense**

The Department of Defense has announced the following pre-announcements:

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Support innovative, high-impact research to improve the health and lives of veterans who have Gulf War Illness (GWI). The GWIRP is administered by the US Army Medical Research and Materiel Command (USAMRMC) through the Office of Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs (CDMRP). Learn More.

**Peer Reviewed Alzheimer’s Research Program (PRARP)**

The FY14 Defense Appropriations Act provides $12 million (M) to the Department of Defense’s Peer Reviewed Alzheimer’s Research Program (PRARP). The PRARP was initiated in 2011 to address the long-term consequences of traumatic brain injury (TBI) as they pertain to Alzheimer’s disease (AD). Therefore, the PRARP is devoted to (1) understanding the association between TBI and AD; and (2) reducing the burden on caregivers and individuals affected by TBI-AD symptoms, especially in the military community. Support for these objectives is anticipated to be delivered by the research community through a combination of mechanistic and preclinical studies. This program is administered by the US Army Medical Research and Materiel Command, through the Office of Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs (CDMRP). Learn More.

These pre-announcements allow investigators time to plan and develop applications. FY14 Program Announcements and General Application Instructions are anticipated to be posted on the Grants.gov website in September 2014. Pre-application and application deadlines will be available when the Program Announcements are released. These pre-announcements should not be construed as obligations by the government.

For more information, visit the CDMRP website.