

UW ICTR Pilot Awards Program Provides \$1.5 Million to Support Research

For the tenth consecutive round, the UW Institute for Clinical and Translational Research (ICTR) is making pilot awards to support clinical and translational research. With help from institutional co-funding and ongoing support from the Wisconsin Partnership Program (WPP), ICTR made 24 awards this summer for a total of \$1.5 million.

Christine Sorkness, PharmD, professor of Pharmacy and Medicine and ICTR senior associate executive director, comments, "This has been a very tough fiscal environment, but the ICTR Pilot Awards Program continues to combine

monies from the ICTR operating budget with departmental and institutional co-funding and WPP funding to provide essential seed money for the needs of our local investigators."

She continues, "We also collaborated with our local partners such as the Wisconsin Alzheimer's Disease Research Center and the UW Skin Disease Research Center to co-fund pilot research studies in specific areas where our research



missions overlap. It's a win-win situation."

As in prior years, the successful proposals came from all ICTR partners; the five UW partner schools and college and Marshfield Clinic. In addition, some awards were made to applicants from other UW schools, while academic collaborators and community partners were drawn statewide.

More information about the pilot awards program and award summaries is available online (ictr.wisc.edu/FundingOpportunities).

ICTR Support for Local Pilot Project Programs

WI Alzheimer's Disease Research Center (ADRC)

Three of the five ADRC award recipients for pilot research studies in Alzheimer's disease and related illnesses received co-funding from UW ICTR. Check online for the complete list of this and prior year's funded projects (www.adrc.wisc.edu/funded-pilots):

- **Reid Alisch, PhD, SMPH**, *DNA Methylation Age and Gender in the Wisconsin Registry for Alzheimer's Prevention (WRAP)*
- **Vikas Singh, PhD, SMPH**, *Multiscale Analysis of Brain Connectivity and the Interplay with Molecular Imaging Markers in Preclinical Alzheimer's Disease*
- **Nicole Werner, PhD, SMPH**, *HelpCareConnect: Design of a Web-Based Mobile App for Distributed Informal Caregiving*

UW Skin Disease Research Center (SDRC)

ICTR also contributed to co-funding the current awards from the 2016 Pilot and Feasibility Studies Program at the UW SDRC (dermatology.wisc.edu/sdrc.htm). The goal of their NIH-funded pilot program is to serve as a platform to support explorations of innovative research ideas that will enhance skin biology and disease research activities.

- **Nancy Keller, PhD, SMPH**, *Synthetic Polymers to Target Dermatophytic Fungi*
- **Parameswaran Ramanathan, PhD, COE**, **Vijayasaradhi Setaluri, PhD, SMPH**, *Characterization of Regulatory Mechanisms of MITF in Melanocytes*



UW Institute for Clinical and Translational Research
UW ICTR

Watch for 2017 RFAs

UW ICTR will release the next round of Pilot Award RFAs in Fall 2016 with a similar schedule and format as in recent years. Investigators applying for those awards are cautioned, however, that any funding scheduled to start July 1, 2017 or beyond is **contingent upon the successful renewal of the NIH Clinical and Translational Science Award** that provides the backbone for UW ICTR.

Rob Lemanske, MD, ICTR deputy executive director, comments, "We are dedicated to fully supporting the UW ICTR Pilot Awards program, but investigators should understand that during the transition of the CTSA renewal year, all awards will depend upon continued NIH funding."



"Funding cycle constraints mean ICTR will be accepting applications for awards for 2017-2018 before we know the outcome of our renewal application," he adds, "but keeping applicants and the wider UW community informed will be a top priority."

Novel Methods RFA to be Released Oct 1, 2016

Like last year, the Novel Methods RFA will be released earlier than the remainder of the Pilot Award RFAs. The Novel Methods funding mechanism will provide support for broadly defined translational research methods that can be generalizable to other projects. Examples of applicable T0-T2 methods include, but are not limited to, translational analytic methods or precision medicine methods. Applicable T2-T4 methods include, but are not limited to, dissemination and implementation research methods; patient-centered outcomes methods; and community/stakeholder engagement methods.

Potential applicants are encouraged to contact Peggy Hatfield, (pmhatfie@wisc.edu, 261-1939) with questions.

CHECK ONLINE FOR UPDATES TO THE PILOT AWARDS PROGRAM (ICTR.WISC.EDU/FUNDINGOPPORTUNITIES).

2016 Pilot Awards

BASIC AND CLINICAL RESEARCH

Translational Basic & Clinical Research Pilot Awards (\$50,000 for one year)

A Biobehavioral Intervention to Enhance Recovery Following Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplantation

Erin Costanzo, PhD, SMPH

Collaborators: Lisa Cadmus-Bertram, SOE; Mark Juckett, Paul Rathouz, Meredith Rumble, SMPH; Kristine Kwekkeboom, SON

Co-Funding: UW CCC

Developing Therapeutics to Restore Metabolic Flexibility

John Denu, PhD, SMPH; Weiping Tang, PhD, SOP

Collaborators: Manish Patankar, SMPH

mcDESPT and qMT Parameters for Estimating Micro- and Nano-Scale Cartilage Mechanics

Corinne Henak, PhD, COE; Rick Kijowski, MD, SMPH

Collaborators: Melih Eriten, Darryl Thelen, COE

Co-Funding: UW Department of Mechanical Engineering, UW Department of Radiology

Macular Pigment as a Modifiable Glaucoma Risk Factor in Older Women

Yao Liu, MD, SMPH

Collaborators: Ron Gangnon, Julie Mares, SMPH; Thasarat Vajaranant, Univ of Illinois at Chicago

Generating Autologous Intestinal Organoids to Treat Intestinal Diseases

Peter Nichol, MD, PhD, SMPH; Chad Vezina, PhD, SVM, SOP

Computational Predictors of Learning and Neurobiology in Autism

Ari Rosenberg, PhD, SMPH; Brittany Travers, PhD, SOE

Co-Funding: UW Waisman Center

Oncogenic Cooperation of BCL2 and BTK Signaling in Mantle Cell Lymphoma

Lixin Rui, PhD, SMPH, David Yang, MD, SMPH

Surveillance of Pediatric Obesity Patterns in Wisconsin: Identifying Optimal Points of Intervention

Jeffery VanWormer, PhD, MCRF; Dale Schoeller, PhD, CALS

Collaborators: Larry Hanrahan, SMPH; Burney Kieke, MCRF

Co-Funding: MCRF

Novel Methods Awards (\$50,000 for one year)

iPS-Cardiomyocyte IK1-Enhancement: Pathway to Electrical Maturation

Timothy Kamp, MD, PhD, SMPH

Collaborator: Jianhua Zhang, SMPH

Engineered Probiotics for Systemic Delivery of CRAMP to Suppress Type-1 Diabetes

Jan Peter van Pijkeren, PhD; Alan Attie, PhD, CALS

Collaborator: Mark Keller, CALS

Optimizing HTS Using Human iPSC-Derived Neural Cells

Xinyu Zhao, PhD; Anita Bhattacharyya, PhD, SMPH

Collaborator: Gene Ananiev, SMPH

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND RESEARCH

Clinical & Community Outcomes Research Pilot Awards (\$75,000 for one year)

Mindful Policing: A Holistic Approach to Improving Officer Well-Being and Police Work

Dan Grupe, PhD, L&S

Academic Collaborators: Richard Davidson, L&S, Center for Healthy Minds; Charles Raison, SOHE, SMPH

Community Collaborators: Madison Police Department; Madison Professional Police Officers' Assn; Law Enforcement and Leaders of Color Collaboration; United Way Dane County; Dane County NAACP

Parent-Mediated Intervention for Families with Children with Autism and Feeding Challenges

Karla Ausderau, PhD, SOE

Academic Collaborators: Dorothy Farrar-Edwards, SOE; Sigan Hartley, SOHE; Leann Smith, Waisman Center

Community Collaborators: Autism Society of South Central Wisconsin; Communication Innovations, Pediatric Therapy Services

Academic Effects of Concussion in High School Student Athletes

Alison Brooks, MD, MPH, SMPH

Academic Collaborators: David Bernhardt, Elizabeth Cox, Tim McGuine, SMPH; Roger Brown, Traci Snedden, SON; Lyn Turkstra, L&S

Community Collaborators: Madison Metropolitan School District, WI Interscholastic Athletic Assn

Dissemination Supplement Awards (\$5-15,000 for up to 18 months)

Reaching MyHEART: Website Design and Evaluation to Disseminate Young Adult Hypertension Education

Heather Johnson, MD, SMPH

Community Collaborators: Community Advisors, UW Health

Development of a Toolkit to Support Shared Decision Making in Breast Cancer Screening

Sarina Schragger, MD, SMPH

Community Collaborators: UW Health

Dissemination & Implementation Research Awards (\$150,000 for 18 Months)

Disseminating and Implementing a Smoking Cessation Program for Pregnant and Postpartum Women

Michael Fiore, MD, MPH, MBA, SMPH

Academic Collaborators: Bruce Christiansen, SMPH, UW Center for Tobacco Research and Intervention

Community Collaborators: WI Women's Health Foundation

Patient Engagement in Care Redesign: Identifying Effective Strategies for Measuring and Scaling the Intervention

Nancy Pandhi, MD, PhD, MPH, SMPH, Sarah Davis, JD, MPA, SOL, SOP

Academic Collaborators: Rachel Grob, SMPH, SOL; Nora Jacobson, SON; Andrew Quanbeck, COE; Maureen Smith, SMPH

Community Collaborators: WI Collaborative for Healthcare Quality, UW Health

How Does Co-Funding Work?

Co-sponsored pilot awards are reviewed and scored in an identical fashion to all applications. Only after meritorious proposals are selected from the entire pool, are some identified for potential co-sponsorship. This year's cosponsors include:

- Marshfield Clinic Research Foundation
- UW Carbone Cancer Center
- UW Department of Radiology
- UW Department of Mechanical Engineering
- UW Waisman Center

Clinical Implementation of Mammography Screening Shared Decision Making

Elizabeth Burnside, MD, MPH, MS, SMPH

Academic Collaborators: Lori DuBenske, Elizabeth Jacobs, Sarina Schragger, SMPH; Dhavan Shah, L&S, COE

Community Collaborators: UW Health Primary Care Clinics; Health Decisions, Patient Stakeholders

Co-Funding: UW CCC

Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Awards (\$100,000 for one year)

Engaging Stakeholders in Reducing Overtreatment of Papillary Thyroid Microcarcinomas

Susan Pitt, MD, MPH, SMPH

Academic Collaborators: Caprice Greenberg, Margaret Schwarze, Rebecca Sippel, SMPH

Community Collaborators: Thyroid Cancer Survivor's Assn; Qualitative Healthcare Research Consultants; Patient stakeholders; Physician stakeholders from Dean/St. Mary's Hospital, Medical College of Wisconsin, and Marshfield Clinic Health System

Engaging Stakeholders in Integration of Preventive Care and Health Promotion in Specialty Clinics

Christie Bartels, MD, MS, SMPH

Academic Collaborators: Elizabeth Cox, Megan Piper, SMPH; Betty Chewning, SOP; Edmond Ramley, COE; Ann Rosenthal, Medical College of Wisconsin

Community Collaborators: WI Arthritis Foundation; WI Lupus Foundation of America; UW Health; Stakeholder Advisory Group

ABBREVIATIONS:

CALS - Agriculture and Life Sciences
COE - Engineering
L&S - Letters and Sciences
SOHE - Human Ecology
SOE - Education
SOL - Law
SMPH - Medicine and Public Health
SON - Nursing
SOP - Pharmacy
SVM - Veterinary Medicine