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NOVEMBER 2023 NEWSLETTER



The **Center for Advanced Research Training & Innovation (CARTI)** newsletter lists upcoming events, resources, services and grant deadlines for UMB research faculty and fellows. To register for CARTI's upcoming events, click [HERE](#).

Highlights in this Issue

Upcoming CARTI Seminars:

- **Maryland Stem Cell Research Fund (MSCRF) Information Session** (Nov 7 @ 11am: SMC Campus Center)
- **How to Write a Standard Scientific Research Paper** (Nov 16 @ 9am; Zoom)
- **Testing Your Hypotheses with 'Omics Data** (Nov 16 @ 1pm; Zoom)
- **Leveraging LLMs like ChatGPT: Insights and Applications in Modern Research** (Nov 29 @ 9am; Zoom)
- **Science Communications Series (Part 2): Executive Panel Discussion on What Audiences Want** (Dec 7 @ 12pm; Zoom)
- **Developing Tables, Figures and Graphs for Your Research Paper** (Dec 14 @ 9am; Zoom)

Additional Events:

- **Society of Clinical Research Associates: Patient-Centered Research: Case Study and Practical Applications** (Nov 1 @ 12pm; Zoom)
- **UMSON Research Seminar Series: Pragmatic Research** (Nov 15 @ 12pm; Zoom)
- **NIDA: Early Career Workshop: Navigating Career Opportunities and Challenges**

(Nov 27 @ 12pm; Zoom)

- **FDA: Clinical Investigator Training Course (CITC)** (Dec 6-7 @ 11am; Zoom)
- **UMB Graduate School:** Applications are now being accepted for:
 - **Master of Science in Epidemiology and Clinical Research – Clinical Research Track**
 - **Certificate Program in Clinical Research**

Funding Opportunities:

- **Damon Runyon Cancer Research Foundation** (*Physician-Scientist Training Award*)
- **American Heart Association** (*Career Development Award*)
- **Rita Allen Foundation** (*Scholars Award in Pain*)
- **Simons Foundation Autism Research Initiative (SFARI)** (*Bridge To Independence Award*)
- **Foundation Fighting Blindness** (*Career Development Program*)
- **Sarcoma Foundation of America** (*Research Grants*)
- **Klingenstein Philanthropies** (*Fellowship Awards in Neuroscience*)

CARTI's Upcoming Seminars

Funding Seminar Series

Maryland Stem Cell Research Fund (MSCRF) Information Session

Tuesday, November 7

11:00am – 12:45pm

SMC Campus Center, 621 W. Lombard Street, Room 351, 3rd Floor

Boxed Lunches will be served

Guest Speaker: Ruchika Nijhara, PhD, MBA, Executive Director, Maryland Stem Cell Research Fund

This information session will provide an overview of the grant programs offered by the **Maryland Stem Cell Research Fund (MSCRF)** for human stem cell research in the state of Maryland. Participants will also hear from a panel of recent awardees who will share their personal experiences/advice with submitting an MSCRF grant.

About MSCRF: MSCRF was established by the Governor and the Maryland General Assembly through the Maryland Stem Cell Research Act of 2006. The purpose of the Fund is to support stem cell research, treatment, and cures by providing grants to public and private entities in the state of Maryland. To date, the MSCRF has dedicated over \$200 million to support nearly 600 research projects. This funding spans various stages of technology development, ranging from basic research to translational research, clinical development, and product manufacturing.

Target Audience: Researchers including faculty, post-doctoral fellows who wish to conduct basic, translational and/or clinical research involving stem cells.

For more information on MSCRF funding opportunities, visit: <https://www.msccrf.org/funding-opportunities>.

This session is co-hosted by:
Maryland Stem Cell Research Fund (MSCRF)
Center for Stem Cell Biology & Regenerative Medicine, UMSOM
Office of Research and Development, UMB
Center for Advanced Research Training & Innovation (CARTI), UMSOM

[Register Now!](#)

Scientific Writing Seminar Series

How to Write a Standard Scientific Research Paper

Thursday, November 16

9:00 – 10:00am

Zoom

This session will provide tips for writing a peer-reviewed scientific research paper and will focus on the content of the sections (Introduction, Methods, Results and Discussion, and Title & Abstract). In addition, this session will include advice about organizing and communicating your research.

Speaker: Joseph P. Stains, PhD, Professor, Department of Orthopaedics, Division Head of Musculoskeletal Science, UMSOM

[Register Now!](#)

Developing Tables, Figures and Graphs for Your Research Paper

Thursday, December 14

9:00 – 10:00am

Zoom

Tables, figures and graphs play a significant role in presenting and enhancing the writer's message in a scientific paper. Deciding when and how to use these visual aids -- and developing the most appropriate -- can be challenging. This session will provide tips to consider when producing effective tables, figures and graphs.

Speaker: Jessica Brown, PhD, Associate Professor, Department of Epidemiology & Public Health, UMSOM

[Register Now!](#)

Research Skills Seminar Series

Leveraging LLMs like ChatGPT: Insights and Applications in Modern Research

Wednesday, November 29

9:00 – 10:00am

Zoom

During this session, participants will discover how large language models (LLMs), like ChatGPT, can "copilot" their research and aid in diverse tasks such as literature review, data interpretation, and manuscript drafting. Participants will also learn how to avoid common pitfalls like hallucinations, to maintain the integrity and accuracy of their research as well as gain insights into the ethical considerations intrinsic to AI, such as potential biases, data privacy issues, and climate/sustainability impacts.

Speaker: **Florence (Flo) Doo, MD**, Director of Innovation, University of Maryland Medical Intelligent Imaging (UM2ii) Center; Assistant Professor, Department of Diagnostic Radiology & Nuclear Medicine, UMSOM

[Register Now!](#)

Career Skills "Short" Seminar Series 30-Minute Sessions

Testing Your Hypotheses with 'Omics Data

Thursday, November 16

1:00 – 1:30pm

Zoom

'Omics data, characterized by high volumes of data points, has long been viewed as "discovery science" wherein hypotheses are generated through discovering novel trends in the data.

Increasing accessibility to 'omics data through public repositories and cost reductions in the generation of new data is forcing the field to pivot from discovery-based science to hypothesis driven experiments.

This 30-minute session will describe how 'omics data can be used to test your hypotheses and provide examples, highlight important limitations of these methods and recommendations for study design, and how to perform these experiments.

Speaker: **Johanna B. Holm, PhD**, Assistant Professor, Department of Microbiology & Immunology, Institute for Genome Sciences, UMSOM

[Register Now!](#)

Science Communications Fall Series

How to approach talking about your research and who you're talking to

Executive Panel Discussion on What Audiences Want

Thursday, December 7

12:00 - 1:00pm

Zoom

Tune in to learn what government, philanthropist, and foundation audiences are looking for in your research results and how to best approach those conversation. Audrey Huang will moderate a panel discussion with three executives to tap their knowledge and expertise on what aspects of research storytelling are most successful.

Panelists:

Shawn Castellanos

National Executive of Emerging Strategies, American Heart Association

Heather Culp

Chief Philanthropy Officer, UMMC & UMSOM

Kevin Kelley

Chief Government Affairs Officer and Vice President, UMB

[Register Now!](#)

Scholarly Writing Accountability Group (SWAG) Program

Virtual Program to Help Faculty Increase Their Scholarly Writing Productivity

The Center for Advanced Research Training & Innovation (CARTI) provides a virtual peer accountability/support program designed to increase writing productivity among UMB early stage faculty called **Scholarly Writing Accountability Group (SWAG)**. A description of our virtual SWAG program follows, including details on how to participate.

What is a VIRTUAL SWAG?

A virtual SWAG is an active peer-led writing group for **UMB junior faculty** that meets for 1-hour, once a week over a 10-week period using **Microsoft Teams**. Groups follow a

Writing accountability groups are being used at multiple major medical schools. The data which have been reported on the results of this program are very favorable, reflecting marked increases in the quantity and quality of writing by junior faculty participants.

What are the Benefits of Joining a SWAG?

Faculty who join SWAG will:

- Develop new writing habits to achieve writing goals
- Improved time management skills
- Gain a greater sense of control over the writing process

structured agenda including 15 minutes of updates and goal-setting followed by 30 minutes of individual writing and then 15 minutes of reporting and wrap-up. Each group is limited to 4-8 members who must commit to attending at least 8 out of the 10 weekly sessions. In a SWAG, there is no peer review of writing; SWAGs focus on the process of writing, not the content. ***The purpose of SWAG is to help junior faculty get in the habit of 1) writing in short blocks of time daily or almost every day and 2) identifying and prioritizing feasible writing goals.***

- Build a small community of support/social network

Registration

New SWAGs at UMB are being formed on a rolling basis. If you're interested in participating, please submit the following **REQUEST FORM**.

Questions? Email **Stacie Mendoza**

CARTI'S Seminar Slides & Recordings



Join CARTI's Microsoft Teams Page!

This **page** serves as a hub for CARTI's seminar recordings and slides for the seminar series listed below:

- **Managing Your Research Program**
- **Scientific Writing**
- **Research Skills** (*grant writing, presentations, etc*)
- **Funding Seminar Series**
- **Introduction to Grant Writing**
- **Career Skills Short Seminar Series** (*30 minute lectures*)
- **Communicating Research Findings with a Broad Audience**
- **UM Ventures: Intellectual Property Protection, Commercialization, & Industry Partnerships**

To gain access, email **Stacie Mendoza**.

CARTI'S Individual Consultations

Research Grant Application/Summary Statement Consultations

Christy Chang, PhD, Senior Program Advisor, is available to meet with faculty to discuss writing their first R01 NIH application. Dr. Chang offers consultations regarding readiness and eligibility for R01 level funding, specific aims, and other elements of an R01 application. In addition, she is available to discuss strategies for addressing summary statements and revising research grant applications for resubmission. **Email: cchang@som.umaryland.edu**

Career Development (K) Grant Application/Summary Statement Consultations

Marey Shriver, PhD, Executive Director for Faculty Development, is available to meet with junior faculty to discuss early project conception to the development of a complete NIH career development (K) application. Dr. Shriver offers consultations regarding developing a clear research question and testable hypothesis. In addition, she provides consultations regarding

eligibility for K grant applications, planning for an upcoming grant proposal, and assembling a K application – including creating a training plan. Lastly, she is available to discuss strategies for addressing summary statements and revising research grant applications for resubmission. Email: mshriver@som.umaryland.edu

Identifying Sources of Funding Consultations

Stacie Mendoza, Program Director, assists junior faculty and postdocs with identifying sources of funding for their research. To schedule a funding consultation, complete the **Funding Search Request Form** online. Email: smendoza@som.umaryland.edu

CARTI'S Mini Library



The CARTI's "Mini Library" provides access to books that are relevant to developing the professional skills and success of an academic research career of SOM faculty.

A complete list of books can be found **HERE**

Books are available in the CARTI office located at **MSTF Building, Room 319** and can be signed out for up to 3 weeks. Email **Stacie Mendoza** if you would like to set up a time to visit our library.

The Society of Clinical Research Associates (SOCRA) Baltimore Chapter

The Society of Clinical Research Associates (SOCRA) is a non-profit, charitable and educational membership organization committed to providing education, certification, and networking opportunities to all persons involved in clinical research activities.

The Baltimore Chapter's monthly meetings are open to the public and all are welcome to attend. Below is the topic for the next meeting:

Patient-Centered Research: Case Study and Practical Applications

Wednesday, November 1

12:00 - 1:00pm

Zoom

Presenter: Michelle Medeiros, MS, MA, CCRP, Director of Clinical and Translational Research
University of Maryland, Baltimore School of Pharmacy

Learning Objectives:

- Describe Patient-Centered Outcomes Research/Comparative Clinical Effectiveness Research (PCOR/CER)

- Examine real world example of PCOR/CER pragmatic clinical trial
- Identify practical applications of patient-centered research approaches

Credits Available: 1 CE credit for SOCRA members

For questions, please email the chapter at: SOCRABaltimore@gmail.com

[Register Now!](#)

University of Maryland School of Nursing

Research Seminar Series

Pragmatic Research - the research you didn't know you needed to know about

Wednesday, November 15

12:00 - 1:00pm

Zoom

Please join the UMSON's Office of Research and Scholarship virtually, as they host **Joan Carpenter, PhD, CRNP, ACHPN, FPCN**, assistant professor, for her talk on pragmatic research, an often misunderstood and underrepresented field of human subjects research with dynamic approaches to problem solving in the clinical setting.

[Register Now!](#)

National Institutes of Health (NIH)

National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA)

NIDA Early Career Workshop: Navigating Career Opportunities and Challenges

Monday, November 27

12:00 – 2:00 ET

Zoom

All interested graduate students, postdoctoral fellows, and early career scholars and investigators are invited to register and attend. Do not worry if you have not been funded by NIDA in the past. All are welcome.

This virtual workshop is designed to inform early career scientists on National Institutes of Health (NIH) training, career or educational grants and other funding mechanisms. Participants will be able to identify new opportunities and converse directly with National

Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) program and review staff. **The workshop will feature a discussion on resilience in research, a panel discussion with education and training directors, and breakout sessions** on the following topics:

- Getting the most out of mentor/mentee relationships
- Fighting imposter thoughts
- Postdoc Fellowships
- Career Transitions (K-R)
- Non-academic Career Paths
- NIH Mentored K Applications

[Register Now!](#)

U.S. Food & Drug Administration (FDA)

FDA Clinical Investigator Training Course (CITC)

December 6 - 7, 2023

Day1: Wed, Dec 6, 11:00 AM - 4:30 PM ET

Day2: Thu, Dec 7, 11:00 AM - 4:00 PM ET

This **free**, virtual, 2-day course is hosted by the U.S. Food & Drug Administration (FDA).

Topics covered:

- Design and conduct of clinical trials
- Innovative trial designs
- Considerations for rare disease drug development
- Enhancing diversity in clinical trials
- Addressing specific populations in drug development
- Statistical evaluation of clinical trials
- Understanding the investigator brochure
- Clinical trial quality

[Register Now!](#)

UMB Graduate School

Applications are being accepted by the UMB Graduate School for the following:

- **Master of Science in Epidemiology and Clinical Research – Clinical Research Track**

Certificate Program in Clinical Research

Both are designed specifically to meet the needs of clinicians and scientists who want further education and training to develop a successful career as a clinical and translational investigator. Graduates will gain the ability to identify important clinical research questions, develop research protocols, generate pilot data, conduct clinical research, analyze and write the results in a publishable form and develop and submit grant proposals. Former students include faculty members (particularly those on or applying for career development awards), fellows, residents and medical and dental students.

Please see the details and application deadline for each below:

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN EPIDEMIOLOGY AND CLINICAL RESEARCH – CLINICAL RESEARCH TRACK

- 30 credits
- Eligible for tuition remission
- Designed for clinicians and clinicians-in-training wanting to develop a successful clinical research career

Early Admission Deadline: March 1, 2024

Final Application Deadline: May 15, 2024

For more information, visit the [WEBSITE](#)

In particular, read the "Frequently asked questions" for each.

CERTIFICATE PROGRAM IN CLINICAL RESEARCH

- 12 credits
- Eligible for tuition remission
- For clinicians and scientists who do not have time to do a full MS but need to gain skills not covered in their health profession or graduate education

Early Admission Deadline: March 1, 2024

Final Application Deadline: May 15, 2024

For more information, visit the [WEBSITE](#)

In particular, read the "Frequently asked questions" for each.

For an individual consultation on whether this training is appropriate for you, please contact **Jennifer Albrecht, PhD** at jalbrecht@som.umaryland.edu

Funding Opportunities

DAMON RUNYON CANCER RESEARCH FOUNDATION

Physician-Scientist Training Award

The Physician-Scientist Training Award supports and encourages outstanding physicians to pursue cancer research careers by providing them with the opportunity for a protected research training experience under the mentorship of a highly qualified and gifted mentor.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: December 1, 2023

Visit [WEBSITE](#) for more information

AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION

Career Development Award

The Career Development Award supports highly promising healthcare and academic professionals, in the early years of their first professional appointment, to explore innovative questions or pilot studies that will provide preliminary data and training necessary to assure the applicant's future success as a research scientist.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: December 6, 2023

Visit [WEBSITE](#) for more information

RITA ALLEN FOUNDATION

Rita Allen Foundation Scholars Award in Pain

The Rita Allen Foundation provides funding to early-career leaders in basic pain research whose work holds high potential for uncovering new pathways to improve the treatment of chronic pain. Proposed research should be directed toward investigating the molecular biology of pain and/or basic science topics related to developing new analgesics for managing pain.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: December 14, 2023

Visit [WEBSITE](#) for more information

SIMONS FOUNDATION AUTISM RESEARCH INITIATIVE (SFARI)

Bridge to Independence Award

The Bridge to Independence Award program engaged talented early-career scientists to pursue autism research by facilitating their transition to research independence and providing grant funding at the start of their faculty positions at a U.S. or international research institution.

LOI AND LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

DEADLINE: January 10, 2024

FINALIST INTERVIEWS: May 22, 2024

Visit [WEBSITE](#) for more info

FOUNDATION FIGHTING BLINDNESS

Career Development Program

The Career Development Program supports the advancement of junior clinical research scientists in their professional endeavors to cure retinal degenerative disease.

DEADLINE: February 1, 2024

Visit [WEBSITE](#) for more info

SARCOMA FOUNDATION OF AMERICA

Research Grants

The Research Grant supports pre-clinical, translational, and clinical research on the etiology, molecular biology, pathogenesis, diagnosis, and treatment of human sarcomas.

DEADLINE: February 1, 2024

Visit [WEBSITE](#) for more info

KLINGENSTEIN PHILANTHROPIES

Klingenstein-Simons Foundation Fellowship Awards in Neuroscience

The fellowship supports innovative research by early career investigators whose research has relevance for understanding the mechanisms underlying any of a wide range of neurological and behavioral disorders and

may lead to improvements in the diagnosis and treatment of these disorders. The following areas within neuroscience are of particular interest: Cellular and molecular neuroscience; Neural systems; and Translational research.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: February 15, 2024

Visit **WEBSITE** for more info

Seeking Foundation Funding for your Research?

The **SOM's Office of Development, Corporate and Foundation Relations**, provides services and resources to assist UMSOM faculty with identifying private foundation funding for research, programs, educational initiative, and community outreach at the local, regional, and national level. **Visit their [website](#) for more information and to schedule an appointment.**

**Additional funding opportunities can be found at:
UMSOM Internal Funding Opportunities & External Funding Databases**

**UMGCCC Funding Database
(Cancer related research)**

Center for Advanced Research Training & Innovation (CARTI)
University of Maryland School of Medicine
685 West Baltimore Street, MSTF Building, Room 319
Baltimore, Maryland 21201-1559
Phone: (410) 706-5434

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CARTI, UMSOM | 685 W. Baltimore Street, MSTF 319, Baltimore, MD 21201 410-706-5434

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