

CTSA Clinical & Translational Science Awards Program

CTSA Program Steering Committee meeting
September 10, 2018, 2:30-4:00pm
Zoom Conferencing

SC Attendees:	Ebony Boulware Kathleen Brady David Center Harold Collard	Barry Collier Dan Cooper Bradley Evanoff Daniel Ford	Alan Green Phil Kern Donald Lloyd-Jones Tim Murphy	Reza Shaker Susan Smyth
NCATS Attendees:	Christopher Austin Penny Burgoon Michael Kurilla	Samantha Jonson Erica Rosemond Clare Schmitt		
Presenters:	Laura Sugarwala			

Session	Summary Discussion	Action Item
Director's Update (C. Austin)	<p>C. Austin gave an update on the FY 2019 Budget.</p> <p><u>Status and Prospects of Labor-HHS-Educ appropriation bill:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summer - Both House and Senate Appropriations Committees passed their own bills: Provide differing amounts for NIH, NCATS, and CTSA Program (see previous SC meeting slides) • August 24 – Full Senate passed a combined Defense and Labor-HHS-Educ. bill: Includes priorities for both Republicans and Democrats, and no “poison” pills • This week? – Full House and Senate are “conferencing” to work on a compromise combined bill: Note: Full House never passed its Labor-HHS-Educ. bill, but agreed to go to conference • Late September – If conference combined bill is developed: 1) Needs to be passed by both House and Senate; and 2) Needs to be signed by President – previously threatened veto if funding for border wall not provided <p><u>Overall Government (12 Appropriation bills) Status</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compromise spending bills being worked on: 1) Energy-Water, Military Construction-VA, and Legislative Branch; 2) Defense and Labor-HHS-Education; 3) Interior-Environment, Financial Services, Agriculture, and Transportation-HUD • On hold: 1) Homeland Security - includes border wall funding, so probably postponed until after mid-term elections, and 2) Commerce-Justice-Science and State-Foreign Operations – unknown regarding when these will be taken up 	
Director's Update (C. Austin)	<p>Helping to End Addiction Long-term (HEAL) Initiative - C. Austin shared that the \$500 million appropriated for the HEAL Initiative launched by NIH in April, 2018, and led by Francis Collins (NIH), Walter Koroshetz (NINDS) and Nora Volkow (NIDA), was initially split between NIDA & NINDS. NIH held a formal solicitation process to engage the NIH community on promising proposals that address the opioid epidemic with overarching priorities in 1) treatments for opioid misuse and addiction, and 2) pain management. NCATS submitted two proposals. The Human Cell-Based Screening Platform and Novel Drugs to Treat Pain, Addiction, and Overdose project was funded. We are awaiting to hear back from NIH leadership regarding our other proposal.</p>	
Other Updates (C. Austin)	<p>SC Governance document is currently in review with NCATS and SC Co-Chairs. K. Brady and C. Austin have reviewed it and will circulate it to the SC Members by end of week for additional feedback.</p> <p>Administrator Steering Committee role - Following the approval of the governance document, we will follow the same selection process as the PI Steering Committee. Anticipate filling the position prior to October 22nd meeting so that they can join.</p>	<p>K. Brady/C. Austin to circulate Governance document to SC members</p>

<p>Opioid Medical Training Initiative (K. Brady)</p>	<p>Opioid Medication Training Initiative – K. Brady recapped the SC’s discussion from the 8/13/18 meeting. Question was “<i>should there be an effort to have Buprenorphine waiver training in the consortium?</i>” As the NIH HEAL Initiative is underway, coupled with well thought-out programs around implementation/dissemination for the CTSA Program hubs – in a practice based & rural setting, this could be an opportunity.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Idea – CTSA Program hubs could take on task of promoting or partnering to increase utilization of the waivers. • Goal - Convey areas of support that would benefit the Physician’s practice, including supervision/mentorship around difficult patients, office support for billing, etc. • Rationale - SAMSA has supported an organization to develop and provide this training. No barriers - 8hr training is free, just sign-on. Coalition of 20 organizations. Brown University is waiver-training their graduates. A system is already in place and designed to encourage primary care doctors, nurse practitioners and others to be waived. Training materials and mentoring network is there. This would be a good dissemination/implementation project to do late phase translational research. • Resources - Group at BU have done a tremendous job in disseminating. Suggest to conduct a webinar with different models. • ACTION from SC Mtg. 8/13/18: It was agreed to “Set up PI Webinar regarding Buprenorphine Waiver Training” To move this forward K. Brady is happy to talk a small subset of interested folks for discussion. Questions to pose and have answered include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is it of interest to PI Group? • What is the best way to pursue it? • What is the research component of it? • Do we know the value of adding more practice support? • Important to look at uptake, as many train, but not necessarily implement. • Easy enough for PIs to pass on to 2-3 key people in their organizations. 	<p>K. Brady to send materials to SC & PI Group.</p> <p>K. Brady to assemble small group of interested PIs to look at implementation strategies for Bupe. training.</p>
<p>Pod Feedback (K. Brady)</p>	<p>Pod Feedback –K. Brady queried the SC on why there has been little feedback from the Pods, and suggested on a going forward basis,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PODS - send feedback and/or short synopsis of what was discussed at Pod mtg. • SC - funnel specific topics or questions to pose to the Pods. • CLIC - continue sending reminder requesting synopsis of meeting, ideas, concerns <p>Suggestions on other ways to use the PODS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can we use the PODs as a discussion board? • Could SC develop talking points and include concise information for dissemination? [e.g. Float the question whether they would like this topic part of the F2F Fall meeting?] <p>Examples of items to submit to the Steering Committee could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issues arising from local hubs • Ideas such as “CTSAs have never worked on and we ought to tackle” • Issues at the PODs that may be systemic <p>Other Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow up on the Action Items list generated in previous meetings 	<p>Pods to submit feedback via the CLIC Suggestion Box.</p> <p>CLIC to include Action Items list to meeting summary.</p>
<p>Collaborative Funding Opportunities (L. Sugarwala)</p>	<p>Collaborative Funding Opportunities – L. Sugarwala, Sr. Engagement Manager of CLIC, presented two funding opportunities to the SC Members</p> <p>Un-Meetings Apply to host an attendee-driven event without traditional rules and structure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One hub will receive funds, planning guidance and materials, and high-level coordination from CLIC • Application deadline: October 15, 2018 • Learn more: https://clic-ctsa.org/funding/un-meeting-request-applications • Contact: unmeetings@clic-ctsa.org <p>Synergy Papers - Apply to collaborate on a manuscript that showcases a new or transformed assessment or perspective relative to translational science</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Receive funds and administrative support from CLIC • Application deadline: November 5, 2018 • Learn more: https://clic-ctsa.org/funding/synergy-paper-request-applications • Contact: synergy_papers@clic-ctsa.org 	

STARWORK
(S. Smyth, MD,
PhD)

Update on CTSA Program Steering Committee Taskforce: Sustaining Careers of the Translational Science Workforce (STARWORK)

- The goal of this taskforce is to “identify ways to improve the environmental landscape to sustain the careers of the translational science workforce, with particular emphasis on clinical investigators at academic medical centers “
- The first meeting is scheduled for 9/18/18, and we anticipate asking if we need to reach out to source more people, and possibly breaking into subgroups to tackle the questions.
- The members of this task force include: Barry Collier, Rebecca Jackson, Samantha Jonson, Joan Nagel, Erica Rosemond, Doris Rubio, Joel Tsevat, Jason Umans, Emma Meagher, Kathryn Sandberg, Susan Smyth, and Phil Kern. The taskforce is being supported by: Karen Grabowski, CTSA Program SC Coordinator, CLIC; Heather Baker, Program Analyst, NCATS; and Baindu Bayon, AAAS Fellow, NCATS

The STARWORK Taskforce will: **1)** Identify barriers that exist to sustaining the translational science workforce, **2)** Provide guidance for interventions / investments to achieve the best possible environment to sustain the translational science workforce, and **3)** Generate a white paper that articulates the vision for the ideal environment to sustain the careers of investigators performing translational science.

Specific issues/barriers that have been raised include: 1) Current issues and 2) expect the group to identify other issues: specific R pathways, and leveraging existing programs, debt and its implications. Where does it live in academic homes? Data digging to identify and understanding those careers.

Timeline:

- **Sept – Feb - Will meet 1x** a month, 6 months
- **Fall 2018 SC Mtg** - Preliminary thoughts provided
- **March, 2019** - Target date for deliverables: 1) Steering Committee Meeting (F2F); 2) KL2 PI Meeting (F2F); 3) or Workforce Development DTF

Deliverables: Guidance and White paper

References / Activities in consideration:

[Physician-Scientist Workforce \(PSW\) Report 2014](#)

- Charged with analyzing the current composition and size of the physician-scientist biomedical workforce and making recommendations for actions that NIH should take to help sustain and strengthen a robust and diverse PSW ([update June 2017](#)):
- Expand Loan Repayment Program and amount of loans repaid
- Support pilot programs to improve/shorten physician research training
- Leverage the existing resources of the CTSA Program to obtain maximum benefit for training and career development of clinician scientists

[21st Century Cures Act](#) (Dec 2016)

- Legislation provides NIH with critical tools and resources to advance biomedical research across the spectrum, from foundational basic research studies to advanced clinical trials of promising new therapies.

[NIH Next Generation Researchers Initiative](#) (2017)

- To address longstanding challenges faced by researchers trying to embark upon and sustain independent research careers, and to take steps to promote the growth, stability and diversity of the biomedical research workforce
- Recent [update](#) at NIH ACD June 2018

<p>Domain Task Force Workgroup Update (K. Brady & C. Schmitt)</p>	<p>K. Brady/C. Schmitt provided an update on the Domain Task Force Workgroup, including:</p> <p>Timeline:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • July 2 – Survey disseminated to PIs, Administrators, DTF Teams & working group members, targeted reminders sent out twice. • July 16 – Survey closed • August 29 – Report circulated to the DTF Work Group members • September 12 – Work group meets to discuss proposed changes. • October 22 – Discussion at Fall In-Person Steering Committee Meeting • October 23 – Presentation at CTSA Program Meeting <p>Working Group members include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DTF Leads: Ebony Boulware, Kathleen Brady, Bradley Evanoff, Dan Cooper, Melissa Haendel, Donald Lloyd-Jones, Susan Smyth, Joel Tsevat, Martin Zand • NCATS: Samantha Jonson, Erica Rosemond, and Clare Schmitt • CLIC Coordination: Catherine Fetherston, Scott McIntosh, Debbie Ossip <p>Findings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DTF Survey – Showed that there are some communication opportunities. 50% felt DTFs were an important entity to continue. MCATS thoroughly reviewed the survey. The group will have several meetings in order to discuss recommendations at the Face to Face meeting. NCATS has some suggestions/ideas as a starting point for discussion. Communications – CLIC is putting together some specific actions that they can put forward. 	
<p>Fall In-Person Program Mtg. Update (C. Schmitt)</p>	<p>C. Schmitt provided an update as to the content for the upcoming Fall In-Person Program Meeting Update.</p> <p>2018 Fall CTSA Program Meetings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oct 22 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Steering Committee • Administrators’ Meeting • Networking & Poster Session • Announcement of The Great CTSA Team Science Contest Winners • Oct 23 – very early morning session on CM Morning <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CLIC-Common Metrics Session-start at 7:30am NEW • Updates from NCATS • Report from SC DTF Task Force • SMARTIRB • ACT • Afternoon <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integrating Clinical Care & Research • Interactions with NCATS Div. of Preclinical Innovations - NEW • Opportunities for Hub Engagement with CD2H • Trial Innovation Network Session - NEW • NCATS CTSA Program “Designation” <p>More Info https://clic-ctsa.org/events/2018-ctsa-program-fall-meeting</p>	

<p>In-Person Steering Committee Meeting (K. Brady / C. Austin)</p>	<p>K. Brady/C. Austin provided an update on the In-Person Steering Committee Meeting plans</p> <p>2018 Fall CTSA Program Meetings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oct 22 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Steering Committee - <i>Draft Agenda:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:00 – 12:30 <i>Domain Task Force Discussion- communication recommendations</i> 12:30 – 1:00 <i>Lunch Break</i> 1:00 – 2:00 <i>Sustaining Careers of the Translational-Science Workforce (STARWORK) Update</i> 2:00 – 5:00 <i>At the discretion of the SC</i> <p>Brainstorm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • P. Kern is concerned about level of communication between TIN, RIC and TIC. • K. Brady – do we want to get a brief update from each DTF at the Steering committee meeting? • NCATS CTSA Program Designation – Should we discuss at 10/22 Steering committee meeting. How do we brand CTSA within hub and across NIH? K. Brady –did we come to any conclusions for follow through from the last discussion? C. Austin - we just started talking about it at the April steering committee meeting but ran out of time. It is on the Program meeting agenda. Would benefit from a smaller group discussion. Need to revisit it at next Steering committee meeting (11/12). • Collaborations: NIGMS IDeA and the CTSA Program https://www.nigms.nih.gov/Research/DRCB/IDeA/pages/INBRE.aspx . IDeA institutions are called "CTR." The following ideas/comments were shared: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaboration is encouraged and not sure if CTRs are gateways to become CTSA hubs • M. Kurilla is interested in hearing from CTSA Program hubs that engage with CTRs. What kind of engagement would you like to do? • Could leverage the CTRs in response to the opioid epidemic. The CTRs have access to a large area of the country that the CTSA Program hubs may not have access to. <p>Other</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NCATS is working with AAMC to schedule a webinar about CTSA Program after CTSA program meeting (late October). P. Burgoon suggested inviting Alex O’Mia to come talk to us vs. a webinar. R. Shaker suggested getting these folks on board as far as branding, and then consider AAMC for the spring 2019 Program meeting. • D. Cooper recommended having Bruce Tromber (UC Irvine) speak to us at a future SC meeting – could be a good partner for us. 	
<p>Upcoming Meetings (S. Jonson)</p>	<p>Upcoming Meetings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • October 8, 2018 - is a federal holiday and Steering Committee meeting is cancelled. • October 22, 2018 – We will meet in-person. • November 12, 2018 – is our next Steering Committee webinar. 	<p>CLIC to send cancellation for 10/8/18 mtg.</p>

Steering Committee Action Items

V. September 2018

Task	Name	Description	Action	Target Completion Date	Owner
1	CTSA Program U54 Review Processes	SC members brought up the issue of the review process in comparison to the Cancer Centers review and that no PIs are on the review panels. July Update: DCI leadership met with the NCI Cancer Center Director regarding “branding” and how they structure their review panel.	NCATS will conduct an analysis of their review structure.	TBD	NCATS
3	Steering Committee Taskforce on Sustaining the Translational Science Workforce (STARWORK)	The STARWORK Taskforce will: 1) Identify barriers that exist to sustaining the translational science workforce, 2) Provide guidance for interventions / investments to achieve the best possible environment to sustain the translational science workforce, and 3) Generate a white paper that articulates the vision for the ideal environment to sustain the careers of investigators performing translational science.	Workgroup is currently meeting and will report back to the SC at the October in-person meeting.	March, 2019	Susan Smyth
5	FOA feedback	Develop a broad-reaching feedback mechanism on previous FOA	NCATS is developing a comprehensive multi-stakeholder plan and will report back to the SC at a later time.	TBD	NCATS
6	Suggestion Box	Need to have submissions and responses open to the consortium	CLIC will implement the discussion board which will allow for others to provide asynchronous comments regarding topics.	Fall 2018	Martin Zand
7	Branding: Talking Points for Institutional Administration	Talking points for PIs for the institutional administration on the value of being a part of the CTSA Program consortium. NCATS will develop revised talking points. NCATS staff will reach out to the SC for input. More details to come.	Steering Committee to focus on the topic after the after the workgroup of the DTF sunsets.	Late Fall 2018 - Early Winter 2019	Steering Committee
9	IT Platform for Collaboration	Develop a space where SC can house working documents, discussions, polling, etc.	NCATS working on a log-in federation for NCATS G-Suite Enterprise system.	October 2018	Ken Gersing
10.	Opioid Waiver Training	Set up PI Webinar regarding Buprenorphine Waiver Training” To move this forward K. Brady is happy to	Assemble small group of interested PIs to look at implementation strategies for Bupe. training.	TBD	Kathleen Brady

		<p>talk a small subset of interested folks for discussion. Questions to pose and have answered include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Is it of interest to PI Group?• What is the best way to pursue it?• What is the research component of it?• Do we know the value of adding more practice support?• Important to look at uptake, as many train, but not necessarily implement.• Easy enough for PIs to pass on to 2-3 key people in their organizations.			
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