NCATS Improving Health Through Smarter Science

CTSA Program Steering Committee

January 14, 2019

2:30 – 4:00 ET

CTSA Clinical & Translational Science Awards Program

National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences

Agenda

2:30	Welcome	Barry Coller, Christopher Austin
2:35 – 2:45	Introduction of New Roles and New SC Members! • Barry Coller as new SC Co-Chair • John Buse • Julianne Imperato-McGinley • Gerry Stacy • Patricia Winokur	Names as Stated
2:45 – 3:00	NCATS Update and Steering Committee Status Overview	Christopher Austin
3:00 – 3:40	DTF Workgroup Update	Kathleen Brady, Clare Schmitt
3:40 – 4:00	Steering Committee Taskforce on Sustaining the Translational Science Workforce (STARWORK) Update	Susan Smyth

National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences

Barry Coller, M.D.
Rockefeller University

CTSA Program Steering Committee Co-Chair

2019 - 2020

Welcome New CTSA Program Steering Committee Members!

2019 – 2021 Cohort

John Buse, M.D., Ph.D.
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
UL1 Member

Rachel Hess, M.D., M.S.
University of Utah
UL1 Member

Julianne Imperato - McGinley, M.D.
Weill Cornell
UL1 Member

Gerald Stacy
University of Chicago
Administrator Member

Patricia Winokur, M.D.
University of Iowa
UL1 Member

NCATS Update and Steering Committee Status Overview

Christopher P. Austin, M.D.

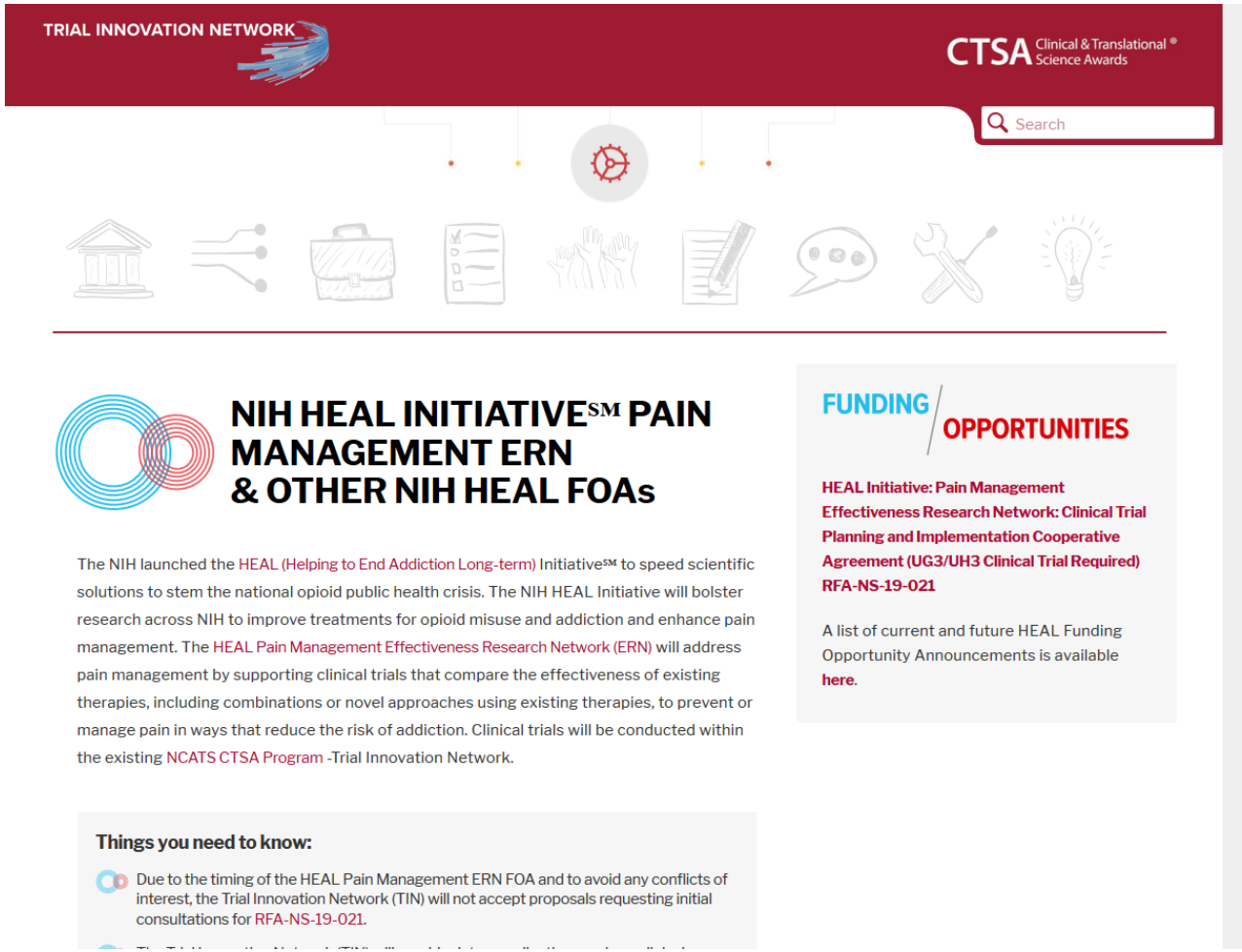
NIH Helping to End Addiction Long-Term (HEAL)SM Initiative

- **Application receipt date extended to February 11, 2018**

- Pain Management Effectiveness Research Network Funding Opportunity (NS-19-021): https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-NS-19-021.html

- TIN Resources: https://trialinnovationnetwork.org/heal-pain-ern-other-heal-foas/

- Questions? Please contact Jane Atkinson (jatkinso@mail.nih.gov) or Cynthia Boucher (cynthia.boucher@nih.gov)



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NIH HEAL℠ Initiative - NCATS Opportunities

3-D Bioprinted Tissue Models of Pain, Opioid Use Disorder and Overdose (RFA-TR-19-005)

- **Letters of Intent Due:** Jan. 28, 2019; **Applications Due:** Feb. 28, 2019
- NCATS is supporting collaborations with the external research community to develop and use 3-D biofabricated tissue models as new drug screening platforms to advance pre-clinical discovery and development of non-addictive treatments for pain, opioid use disorder and overdose. NCATS intends to fund approximately two to three awards for a total of $1.5 million in fiscal year 2019.

Tissue Chips to Model Pain, Addiction and Overdose (RFA-TR-19-003)

- **Letters of Intent Due:** Jan. 28, 2019; **Applications Due:** Feb. 28, 2019
- Selected applicants will receive funding to create and test devices that can model the mechanisms or effects of pain-relevant signaling, addiction or opioid use disorders using human tissues in tissue- and organ-on-chip systems. NCATS intends to commit approximately $5 million in fiscal year 2019 to fund four to six awards.

ASPIRE Design Challenges (NOT-TR-18-031)

- **Challenges Open:** Dec. 31, 2018; **Submission Deadline:** May 31, 2019
- **Winners Announced:** August 2019
- NCATS has issued a series of challenge competitions for novel chemical compound concepts that have the potential to address pain, addiction and overdose. NCATS will issue up to 22 prizes for the creation of a database, an electronic laboratory knowledge portal, machine learning algorithms and biological assays. An additional challenge will focus on a combined solution for two or more areas. View and the ASPIRE Design Challenges page to learn more.

NIH
National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences

The Opioid Crisis and the Future of Addiction and Pain Therapeutics: Opportunities, Tools, and Technologies

February 7-8, 2019 • Natcher Auditorium • NIH Campus • Bethesda, MD

Session Topics

- Novel targets and pathways in pain and addiction
- Lessons learned from clinical successes and failures
- Assays to improve predictive therapeutic efficacy and abuse/addiction liability
- New technologies and methodologies
- NIH capabilities and initiatives
- Biomarkers to enable clinical trials

REGISTER AT

https://events-support.com/events/NCATS-Pain-Addiction-Symposium

NIH National Institutes of Health

Sponsored by
The National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences
THE ASSAY GUIDANCE MANUAL

In coordination with
The National Institute on Drug Abuse
The National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke

Led by the National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences, (NCATS), National Institutes of Health (NIH), this Helping to End Addiction Long-term℠ (HEAL) Initiative workshop is a component of the NCATS Human Cell-Based Screening Platforms and Novel Drugs to Treat Pain, Addiction and Overdose project. For more information on NCATS' role in the NIH HEAL Initiative℠, visit https://ncats.nih.gov/heal.

Existing Steering Committee Working Groups

Domain Task Force

- **Leads:** Kathleen Brady, Samantha Jonson, Erica Rosemond, Clare Schmitt, Martin Zand
- **Members:** Ebony Boulware, Dan Cooper, Brad Evanoff, Donald Lloyd-Jones, Erica Rosemond, Susan Smyth, Joel Tsevat
- **Expected Sunset Date:** Early 2019
- **Deliverable:** Revised DTF structure

Sustaining Careers of the Translational Science Workforce (STARWORK)

- **Leads:** Susan Smyth, Phil Kern, Erica Rosemond
- **Members:** Barry Coller, Rebecca Jackson, Samantha Jonson, Joan Nagel, Doris Rubio, Joel Tsevat, Jason Umans, Emma Meagher, Kathryn Sandberg
- **Expected Sunset Date:** March 2019 at F2F SC Meeting and KL2 Meeting
- **Deliverable:** Guidance and White Paper

CTSA Program "Designation"

- **Leads:** Barry Coller, Clare Schmitt, Martin Zand
- **Members:** Hal Collard, George Mashour
- **Expected Sunset Date/Criteria:** *Spring 2019*
- **Deliverable:** *Designation Guidance*
- *First meeting held January 7th*

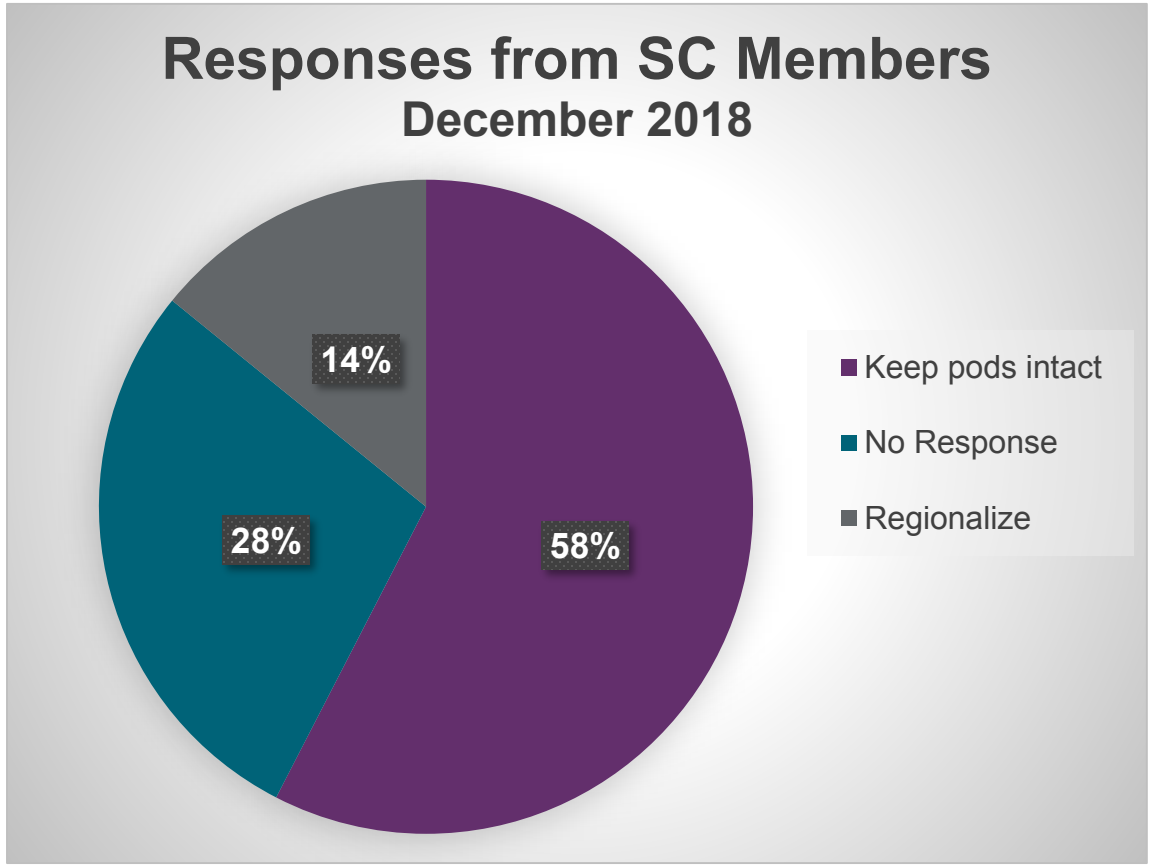
CTSA Program Pods

"Random" Distribution

- Promotes diversity and robust discussion
- Pod reassignments are made only in the following instance:
  1. When a pod participant becomes a SC members; or
  2. If a SC member returns to a pod as a participant

Regional Distribution

- Promotes collaboration amongst members of a regional consortium
- SC appointments would be made dependent on regional pod distribution which would greatly impact selection of new SC members



Final determination: Continue to keep the pods at a random distribution. This enables diverse discussion among hubs in different regions of the U.S., different sized hubs and differing strengths/weaknesses.

National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences

Known Regional Consortia*

**As identified on the CLIC website. Selected consortia is compromised of only funded grantees. Other consortia have been excluded from decision making.*

Midwest Area Research Consortium (6)
- Indiana
- Mayo Clinic
- Medical College of Wisconsin
- Ohio
- Minnesota
- Michigan

New England Research Subject Advocacy Group (5)
- Boston University
- Dartmouth
- Harvard
- Tufts
- U Mass
- ~~Yale~~

UC BRAID (5)
- Davis
- Irvine
- Los Angeles
- San Diego
- San Francisco

New York and Connecticut Consortium (9)
- Einstein
- Columbia
- Rockefeller
- Rochester
- Weill Cornell
- Yale
- Mt. Sinai
- NYU
- Buffalo

Western States Consortium (5)
- Arkansas
- Kansas
- Kentucky
- New Mexico
- Utah

Spirit Consortium (5)
- Pittsburgh
- ~~Yale~~
- U Penn
- Hopkins
- U Chicago
- Wash U at St. Louis

Texas Regional (4)
- Houston
- San Antonio
- Southwestern at Dallas
- Galveston

Missing! Approximately 20+ hubs

National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN SC Pod Leader: George Mashour Email: gmashour@med.umich.edu
UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
EMORY UNIVERSITY
VIRGINIA COMMONWEALTH UNIVERSITY
MEDICAL UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY SC Pod Leader: Donald Lloyd-Jones Email: dlj@northwestern.edu
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY
WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY
UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA

MEDICAL COLLEGE OF WISCONSIN SC Pod Leader: Reza Shaker Email: rshaker@mcw.edu
HARVARD UNIVERSITY
OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY
UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA
YALE UNIVERSITY
CASE WESTERN UNIVERSITY

UNVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA - SAN FRANCISCO SC Pod Leader: Harold Collard Email: Harold.Collard@ucsf.edu
UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO

UNIVERSITY OF IOWA SC Pod Leader: Patricia Winokur Email: patricia-winokur@uiowa.edu
DARTMOUTH COLLEGE
INDIANA UNIV-PURDUE UNIV AT INDIANAPOLIS
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON
MAYO CLINIC

WEILL CORNELL SC Pod Leader: Julianne Imperato-McGinley Email: jimperat@med.cornell.edu
NEW YORK UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
UNIV OF MASSACHUSETTS MED SCH WORCESTER
UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS
GEORGETOWN - HOWARD UNIVERSITY
DUKE UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY SC Pod Leader: Phil Kern Email: philipkern@UKY.EDU
UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS HLTH SCI CTR HOUSTON
UNIVERSITY OF CINCINNATI
UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS MEDICAL BR GALVESTON
UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA
UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS - HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER

UNIVERSITY OF UTAH SC Pod Leader: Rachel Hess Email: rachel.hess@hsc.utah.edu
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA LOS ANGELES

UNIVERSITY OF BUFFALO SC Pod Leader: Tim Murphy Email: murphyt@buffalo.edu
STANFORD UNIVERSITY
JOHNS HOPKINS UNVIERSITY
UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON
UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS
UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY AT ST. LOUIS SC Pod Leader: Bradley Evanoff Email: bevanoff@wustl.edu
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
EINSTEIN-MONTEFIORE
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER
CHILDREN'S NATIONAL

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA, CHAPEL HILL SC Pod Leader: John Buse Email: john_buse@med.unc.edu
TUFTS UNIVERSITY
UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH
MOUNT SINANI SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY
BOSTON UNIVERSITY

CTSA Program Pods (2019)

*New assignments are highlighted in green.

**SC members who recently rotated off will remain in their current pod but now as a participant. These updates have been marked in yellow.

2019 Spring CTSA Program Meeting

MONDAY, MARCH 4 *Tentative* **Times subject to change*	
10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.	CTSA Program Steering Committee Meeting
10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.	CTSA Program Hub Communicators Meeting
4:30 - 7:00 p.m.	Methods & Processes DTF Meeting
TUESDAY, MARCH 5	
8:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.	Career Professional Development for the Clinical and Translational Science Workforce, a joint meeting of the Workforce Development DTF/ KL2 Group/ TL1 Group Meeting
8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Common Metrics Initiative Meeting
1:00 - 4:00 p.m.	Collaboration / Engagement DTF Meeting

National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences

DTF/WG Function & Structure 2.0: Building on the DTF Successes

CTSA Program Steering Committee

January 14, 2019

CTSA Program Steering Committee Work Group on Enhancing the DTFs: Initiated April 2018

MEMBERS	
Kathleen Brady	Samantha Jonson (NCATS)
Ebony Boulware	Erica Rosemond (NCATS)
Bradley Evanoff (Methods/Processes DTF)	Clare Schmitt (NCATS)
Dan Cooper (Lifespan DTF)	Martin Zand
Melissa Haendel	Joel Tsevat (Collaboration/Engagement DTF)
Donald Lloyd-Jones (Informatics DTF)	Susan Smyth (Workforce DTF)

CLIC Coordination:

- Catherine Fetherston
- Scott McIntosh
- Debbie Ossip

Overarching Principles

- **Formalize and focus actions, efforts, and resources on a limited number of highest-priority CTSA Program and Consortium actions**
- **Retain original purposes of DTFs & Work Groups, but limit number**
- **Rename DTF to reflect function**
- **Manage and forecast CLIC support**
- **Transition gradually and thoughtfully over 2019**

NOTE: References to "Challenge Projects" have been removed. Stay tuned!

Proposed Model

CTSA Program Steering Committee

No Change

CTSA Program Consortium Committees

- Administrators
- Communications
- KL2
- TL1

DTFs: Renamed to Reflect Function

Enterprise Committees*

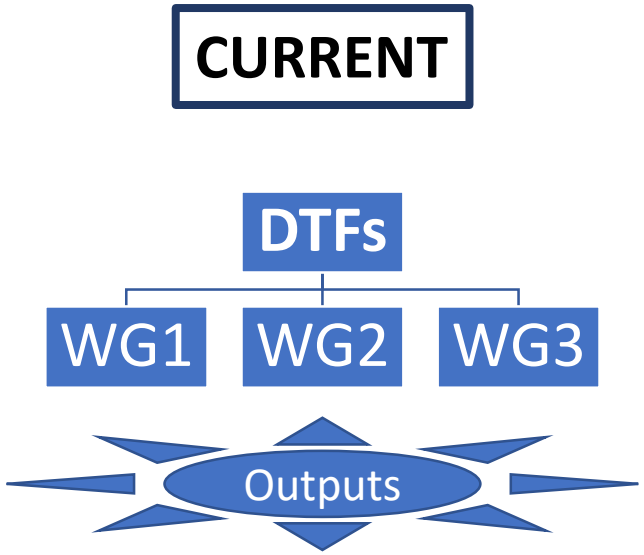
New

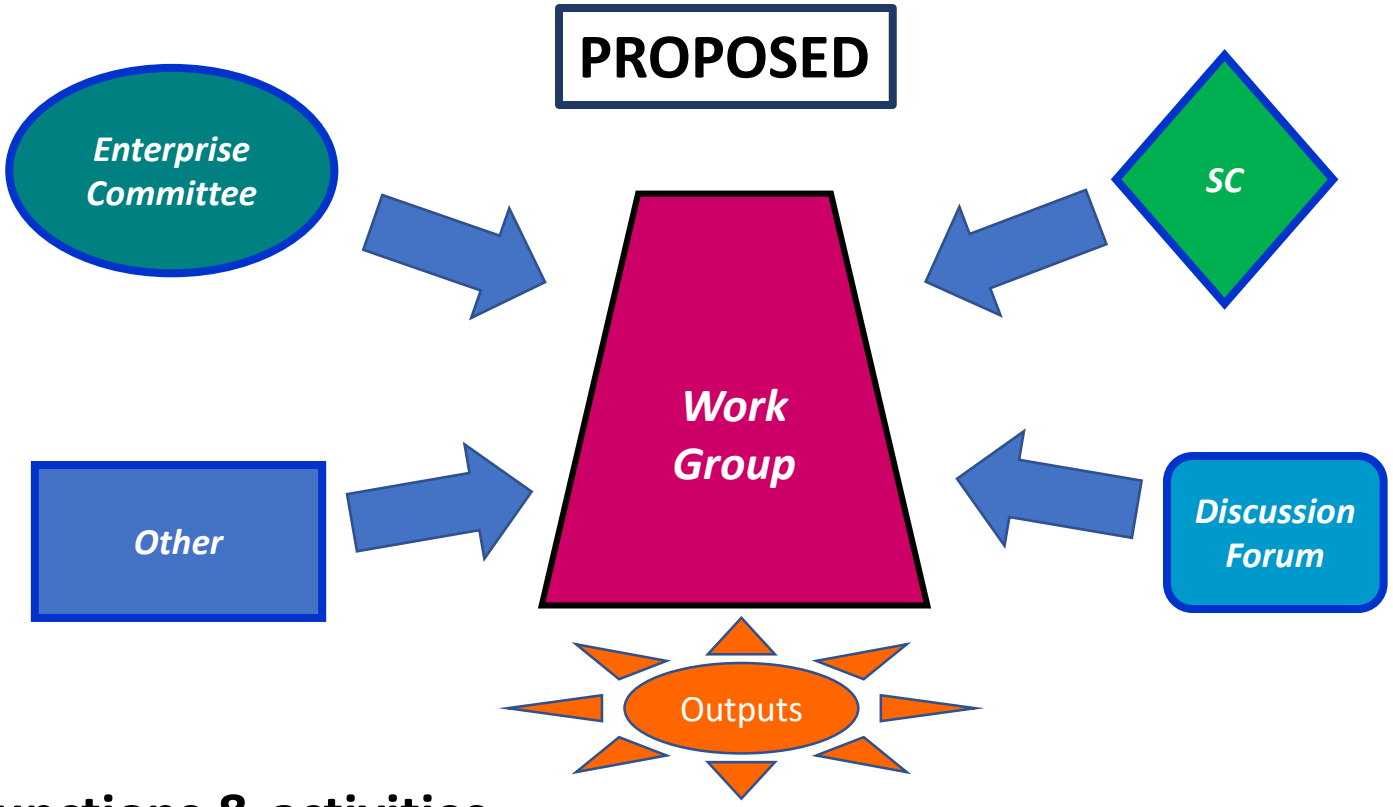
Discussion Forums

Similar

Work Groups*

***Requires SC approval & on-going review**





SAME: Overall functions & activities

DIFFERENT: Names, CLIC support, and increased input from SC & NCATS

SC review/renew/revise Enterprise Committee and WG topics

DTFs transition to Enterprise Committees

Limit number of active Enterprise Committees to 5

Limit number of active Work Groups to 12

Work Group Selection Process

Work Group Proposals Submitted by:

- Enterprise Committees
- Consortium Committees
- Discussion Forums
- PODs
- Steering Committee
- NCATS
- Other

Work Group Proposal

1. Specific Objective(s)
2. Timeline (≤24 mo) w/ Milestones
3. Output/Deliverable(s)
4. Broader context/goal

Submission/review cycle TBD

CTSA Program Steering Committee (includes NCATS Leadership)

- Approve WGs
- Facilitate WG Team Dev
- Receive Updates
- Provide Input

Examples of Prior WG Products

>SMARTIRB >ACT
>GCP >TIN
>DIAMOND >N-Lighten
>STARWORK >Opioid Landscape
>Education Course Sharing

Firewall between NCATS & awardees

NCATS

>Inform Initiative Topics*

- **Supplements**
- **CCIAs**

Work Group

OUTPUTS

Required

>Bi-annual Updates to SC

Possible, with CLIC Support

> Consensus Papers/Publications
> Workshops/Symposiums/Meetings/Conferences
> Funding thru CCIAs or supplements

RESOURCES

NCATS Team Co-Chair
Call Support
Digital Workspace

National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences

Entity Descriptions

CTSA Program Steering Committee

CTSA Program Steering Committee

Mission	Provide input and leadership for the CTSA Program and their Pods
Functions	Discuss common interests, gaps, and opportunities **Review & provide input on priority areas, ECs, & WGs** Suggest PI Webinar topics **Serve as planning committee for annual meetings**
Required Output	Annual Report to Consortium
Potential Outputs	Proposal for Work Group
Steering Committee	**Approve ECs & WGs** **Review Reports and Topics** **Provide Input to ECs & WGs**
Resources	Digital Workspace CLIC Call Support & F2F Mtg

Minor Tweaks

Consortium Committees

CTSA Program Consortium Committees

- **Administrators**
- **Communications**
- **KL2**
- **TL1**

No Change

Mission	Facilitate innovative practices
Functions	Identify gaps & opportunities Generate & disseminate best practices
Required Output	Annual Report
Potential Outputs	Best practices Proposal for Work Group
Steering Committee	Approve Formation Review annual report & provide input
Resources	Digital Workspace CLIC Call Support & F2F Meeting
Limit	Size / CLIC Resources

Discussion Forums

Discussion Forums

Functions	Informal, Self-Selected Discussion Space
Potential Outputs	Proposal for Work Group
Resources	Digital Workspace

New

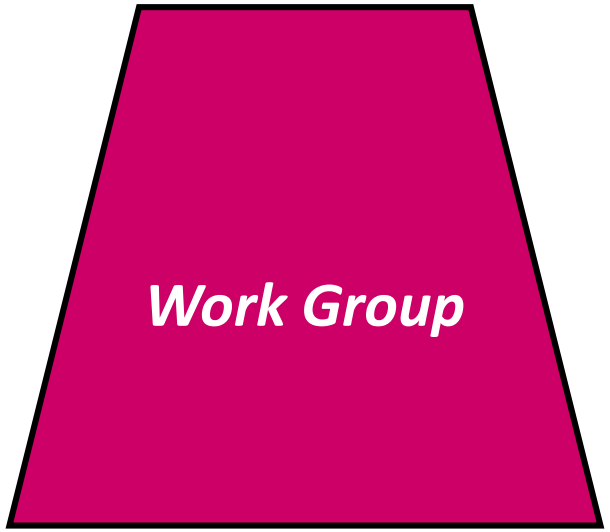
Enterprise Committees

Enterprise Committees

DTFs!

Mission	Promote collaboration & innovation across key areas
Functions	Discuss Consortium Goals Landscape Analyses to identify gaps & opportunities Generate & disseminate best practices
Required Output	Annual Report & Presentation to SC
Potential Outputs	Proposal for Work Group Discussion Forums
Steering Committee	Approve Work Groups/Topics Review Annual Report and Provide Input
Resources	Digital Workspace CLIC Call Support & FTF Meeting **CLIC Support for Annual Joint EC Chairs Webinar**
Limit	Number / Size / Duration / CLIC Resources

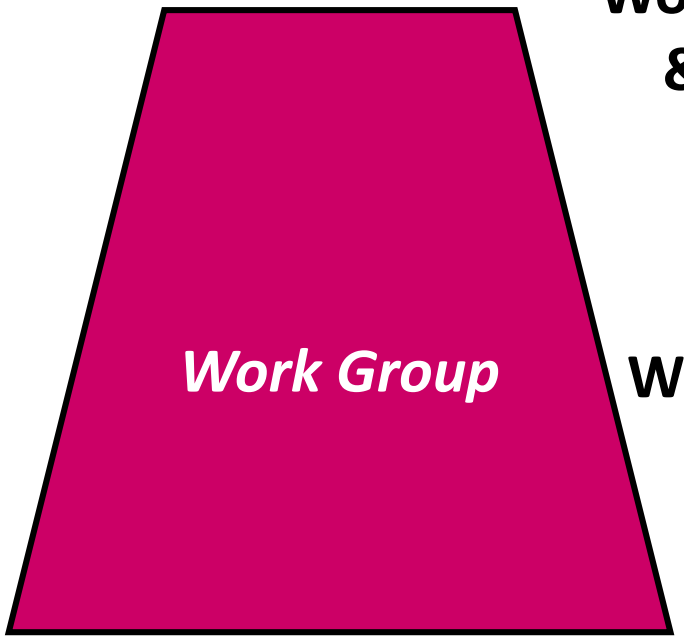
Work Groups to Address TS Issues



Mission	Consider & develop solutions around a specific translational science issue and create synergy across the consortium
Required Output	Bi-annual Report & Presentation to SC
Potential Outputs	Consensus Papers/White Papers/Publications Workshops/Symposiums/Meetings/Conferences Funding thru CCIAs or supplements*
Steering Committee	Approve Work Group Formation Review Bi-annual Report and Provide Input
Resources	NCATS Team Co-Chair Digital Workspace CLIC Support: >Calls >Science Writers >Meetings >Data Analysis >Other?
Limit	Number / Size / Duration / CLIC Resources

NCATS considers information from multiple sources for funding initiative topics

Work Groups



Work Groups will be SC-approved and will consider & develop solutions for a specific translational science issue and create synergy across the consortium

Work Group proposals may originate from across the consortium

Limited number of active WGs

Fewer
More Focused

<u>Work Group Proposals</u>

1. Specific Objective
2. Timeline w/ Milestones
   - Duration ≤24 mo
3. Output/Deliverable
4. Broader context/goal

Note: Although WGs may not be used to specifically develop a grant application for a CCIA or other FOA, the result of a WG may be appropriate as a foundation for a collaborative group to work together to develop a grant application.

2019 Transition Plan

2019 Transition Plan: Existing DTFs

- **Assess existing work groups and develop a Transition Plan – transfer same topic and objectives to an Enterprise Committee or propose a new Enterprise Committee?**
  - **<u>Existing WGs</u>: Review of recent DTF WG reports suggests that most, if not all, existing WGs can complete their activities and sunset by Dec. 2019. If unable to do so, the following options are available:**
    1. **Provide a detailed sunset plan with timelines and milestones to the SC for review**
    2. **Transition to a Discussion Forum with digital workspace.**
  - **<u>New WGs Proposed to end by Dec. 2019</u>: Proposals to SC must describe Specific Objective, Timeline w/ Milestones, Output/Deliverable, and the Broader context/goal, and should be submitted to the SC along with the charter. The SC will review proposals and approve/reject.**

2019 Transition Plan: CLIC & SC

- **CLIC:**
  - **Develop a plan to stagger the institution of new WGs**
  - **Propose a phasing plan for the submission, review, and start of new WGs**
  - **Propose improved communication strategy**

- **Steering Committee:**
  - **Review and provide input on DTF-Enterprise Committee Transition Plans**
  - **Review and provide input on the phasing plans developed by CLIC and the SC DTF WG**
  - **Consider revised/new Enterprise Committees & proposed WGs**
  - **Review & approve improved communication strategy proposed by CLIC**

2019 Transition Plan

- **Consortium groups/committees/other stakeholders**
  - **Suggest topics for Discussion Forums**
  - **Suggest topics for WGs**

SC Actions

- **NOW**
  - **Review and provide input on this proposal from the SC DTF Work Group; approve for implementation**
- **FUTURE**
  - **Review and provide input on the CLIC WG phasing plan**
  - **Review and provide input on the CLIC communications plan**
  - **Review & provide input on DTF-Enterprise Committee Transition Plans**
  - **Consider revised/new Enterprise Committees & proposed WGs**
  - **Review & provide input on WG reports (predict 2 presentations/ monthly SC call)**

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

Update to the CTSA Program Steering Committee

January 14, 2019

KL2 Scholar Alumni Survey

Factors Contributing to a Successful Career in Clinical and Translational Science Research:
Survey of the NCATS CTSA Program KL2 Scholars

- **Goal/Purpose:**
  - To solicit opinions from KL2 scholar alumni about how the NCATS CTSA Program can most effectively support their transition to a successful career in clinical and translational science research by identifying what the KL2 scholar alumni think the most significant barriers are to sustaining a career in clinical and translational research.
- **Survey Population:**
  - Scholars that have completed their term on the KL2 Grant between 2008-2017.
- **Approach:**
  - NCATS will provide emails of all KL2 scholars from IMPACII database (years: 2006-2017). This list and emails will be confirmed by KL2 PIs with assistance from the KL2 PI Champions.

Survey for KL2 Scholars - Overview

- **Characteristics of a KL2 scholar:**
  - Time on the KL2 (assess time spent in training on KL2)
  - Position at start of KL2 and current position (assess advancement)
  - Whether in tenure stream or no longer in academic (assess advancement and drop out of academia)
  - If in an admin or leadership position
  - How their salary is supported currently (clinical, grant, teaching)
  - Current grant funding
- **Assessment of Career Success:**
  - Timing and type of grant funding
  - Extrinsic and intrinsic factors of success
- **Opinions on What Contributed to Their Career Success:**
  - What factors contributed to their success
  - Whether debt is an issue in their decision making
  - Whether they think they can sustain a career in clinical and translational research
  - How challenging they think it is to be a clinician or teacher and a researcher
  - Satisfaction with integration or work/life
  - Other comments

Next Meeting:

February 11, 2019

Additional Slides
DTF WG

Background - 1

- November 2014 DTFs Created
- April 2018 Steering Committee Meeting (4.9.2018): Domain Task Force Packet/Updates
  - Respondents Suggested Enhancements for the DTFs
    - Engagement of DTF members
    - Dedicated funding for various DTF activities
    - Planning platforms for subsequent applications
    - Trans-DTF WGs
    - Smaller in-person meetings
    - Promote sharing and dissemination of resources
    - Direction from CTSA Program Leadership
    - Develop best practices, conduct evaluation, develop WG outcomes that can be implemented

Background - 2

- **April 2018 Steering Committee F2F Meeting (4.18.2018): Session on DTFs**
  - **Discussion of April 2018 Domain Task Force Packet/Updates & agreement to convene a SC DTF WG**
  - **Timeline & Milestones**
    - **June 6: First WG call; decision to request feedback from consortium via survey**
    - **July: DTF Survey Launched**
    - **August: DTF Survey Report Issued**
    - **September: Generated initial recommendations**
    - **October: SC WG presented initial recommendations to Full SC; discussed October 2018 Domain Task Force Packet/Updates & proposed organizational change to the DTF structure**
    - **November/December: Revised recommendations**
    - **January 2019: Share and discuss recommendations with Full SC**

DTF SURVEY (JULY 2018)

- **Key Responses & Issues**

  While the responses generally indicated support of the DTFs, several areas were identified for improvement:

  - **Communications**
  - **Resources for DTFs; unfunded mandate**
  - **DTFs too broad; need focus, timelines, deliverables**
  - **Strengthen collaborative efforts**
  - **Change DTF name to avoid a problematic acronym and better reflect function**

- **SC Work Group Key Thoughts**
  - **Improve Communications**
  - **Focus Resources**
  - **Clarify & Enhance Operations**
  - **Propose New Model**

DTF Survey – Key Responses (n=275)

- **Generally Supportive**
- **Overall DTF Structure**
  - Well-Informed about DTF Activities: 11% YES*
  - Addressing Important Issues: 43% YES
  - Valuable: Scale of 1-10 6-10 = 50% (5-10 = 73%)
  - "Right" Structure: 50% YES

Yes includes only agree/strongly agree responses

- **Issues Identified**
  - Communications
  - Provide resources for DTFs; unfunded mandate
  - DTFs too broad; need focus, timelines, deliverables
  - Strengthen Collaborative Efforts
  - Change DTF name to avoid a problematic acronym and better reflect function

SC DTF WG Proposal Begins to Address Key Requests

April 2018 DTF Packet Comments
Suggested Enhancements for the DTFs

- Engagement of DTF members
- Dedicated funding for various DTF activities
- Planning platforms for subsequent applications
- Trans-DTF WGs
- Smaller in-person meetings
- Promote sharing and dissemination of resources
- Direction from CTSA Program Leadership
- Develop best practices, conduct evaluation, develop WG outcomes that can be implemented

July 2018 DTF Survey
Key Issues

- Communications
- Provide resources for DTFs; unfunded mandate
- DTFs too broad; need focus, timelines, deliverables
- Strengthen Collaborative Efforts
- Change DTF name to avoid a problematic acronym and better reflect function

NCATS' CTSA Program

- **NCATS' Mission: Catalyze the generation of innovative methods and technologies that will enhance the development, testing and implementation of diagnostics and therapeutics across a wide range of human diseases and conditions.**
- **CTSA Program: Designed to develop innovative solutions that will improve the efficiency, quality and impact of the process for turning observations in the laboratory, clinic and community into interventions that improve the health of individuals and the public.**
- **A successful CTSA Program is crucial to achieve the NCATS' mission.**

2014 Domain Task Forces & Work Groups

- **Original purpose of the Domain Task Forces: Execute the NCATS Advisory Council Working Group (ACWG) recommendations.**
  - Provide NCATS/CTSA with input from all stakeholders to set direction and priorities for CTSA projects
  - Focus on short and long term needs with the goal to enable translational science and provide patients with access to treatment more quickly
  - Provide a structure where high priority issues (that relate to ACWG and CTSA goals) can be studied
  - Inclusive process where all Hubs can participate and have access
  - Foster communication and collaboration at all levels
  - Discrete objectives, timelines and deliverables for every activity
- **These activities continue to be central to a robust CTSA Program**