

SPHHP Research Activities Newsletter

In the News

New Awards



Jo Freudenheim, UB Distinguished Professor and Chair of Social and Preventive Medicine, received a renewal award from Health Research Inc. for the project entitled *DNA methylation: A mechanism for aggressive breast cancer in African-American women*. Jo will participate in the study design, data analysis, and interpretation and publications, as well as provide samples of breast tissue from healthy women for determinations of genome wide methylation and for elucidation of difference in DNA methylation by race.



Alan Hutson, Chair and Professor of Biostatistics, received a renewal award from Health Research Inc. for the project entitled *Gynecologic oncology group statistical and data center*. Alan will provide statistical design and analytical support, statistical genomics support for the GOG and support GOG publication efforts and data safety monitoring committee efforts. **Jeffrey Miecznikowski**, Assistant Professor of Biostatistics, and **David Tritchler**, Research Professor of Biostatistics, are Co-Investigators on the grant.



Jeffrey Miecznikowski, Assistant Professor of Biostatistics, received an award from Health Research Inc. for the project entitled *Development and validation of an imaging-based biomarker of therapeutic efficacy*. Jeffrey will provide statistical analysis and participate in the writing of reports and manuscripts. Jeffrey is also Co-Investigator on a 5-year award from the National Institute of Dental & Craniofacial Research with Principal Investigator Frank Scannapieco (Oral Biology) for the project entitled *Amylase binding and gene expression in S. gordonii*. Jeffrey will perform statistical analysis of data to determine the mechanisms by which an abundant enzyme in saliva, amylase, interacts with streptococcus gordonii, a common oral organism, and the function of this interaction.



David Tritchler, Research Professor of Biostatistics, received a renewal award from Health Research Inc. for the project entitled *Genetic susceptibility to transplant-related mortality after unrelated donor stem cell transplant*. David will oversee the technical aspects of the study including the high-throughput genotyping, assessment of population substructure, and analysis of genetic dataset, including direction of the final statistical analysis of all project aims. He will also be responsible for the selection of genotyping chips and directing genotyping quality control.



Gregory Wilding, Associate Professor of Biostatistics, received a renewal award from Health Research Inc. for the project entitled *PDT mechanisms and strategies for optimization: Core C*. Gregory will provide statistical analyses and participate in the writing of reports and manuscripts.

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Congratulations!



Gary Giovino “Cigarette smoking varies across states” By ELLEN GOLDBAUM Published: June 10, 2009

The United States is becoming a nation of haves and have-nots when it comes to tobacco control, according to a comprehensive publication on cigarette-smoking prevalence and policies that was released yesterday. The report, “Cigarette Smoking Prevalence and Policies in the 50 States: An Era of Change—the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Impact Teen Tobacco Chart Book,” was presented at the National Conference on Tobacco or Health, held in Phoenix. It was prepared for the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation by researchers in the UB Department of Community Health and Health Behavior, and at Roswell Park Cancer Institute. Researchers from eight other institutions also contributed,... The report includes individualized data on smoking behaviors for all 50 states, as well as a discussion of national trends revealed by the data. “States can reduce death and disease by reducing smoking prevalence,” said Gary G. Giovino, Professor and Chair of the Department of Community Health and Health Behavior and principal investigator on the report. “It’s that simple.” Read the full article at: http://www.buffalo.edu/ubreporter/2009_06_10/tobacco_report

Honors



William Scheider, Research Assistant Professor of Social and Preventive Medicine, received the 2012 Golden Gas Mask Award for his contributions to the Clean Air Coalition of Western New York. This annual award honors a person who has shown dedication, leadership, and a deep commitment to action in the fight for environmental health. William was a founding member of the board of directors and previously served as board president of the Coalition.

Grant Clinic

NIH Notices

Pilot Program Underway for E-submission of Administrative Supplements

NIH announces two pilots for submitting administrative supplement requests for non-competing Type 3 supplement requests that do not involve a change of scope or specific aims and which do not require peer review. If the parent award’s activity code has transitioned to electronic submission, requests now can be submitted electronically using the SF424 application through Grants.gov or by using the streamlined submission process of eRA Commons. As part of this implementation, NIH will now publish all administrative supplement programs as FOAs, not Guide Notices as previously done. For further information, please see NIH Notice:

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-12-024.html>

The Division of Receipt and Referral will use eRA Commons to Communicate with Applicants and Applicant Organizations

Beginning May 25, 2012, communications from DRR will be accessible to applicants and applicant organizations in the eRA Commons in a new ‘Correspondence’ section of the Commons detailed status screen for the application. DRR will notify an applicant when: 1) additional information is required before his/her application can be assigned to a scientific review group and NIH Institute or Center for funding consideration; 2) your request for an IC assignment cannot be honored; or 3) your application does not comply with NIH policy. To avoid delays, it is vital that all PIs are registered in eRA Commons and all email addresses are checked periodically for accuracy. Applicants will be notified by email to check their Commons account if there is communication from DRR.

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-12-108.html>

The Ins and Outs of a Study Section Meeting

Faculty who submit grants to NIH may be interested in NIH’s description of a Study Section meeting. The study section meeting is the first stage of NIH’s two-stage peer review process. Typically present at a study section are a scientific review officer, a chair of the study section and between 16-30 committee members with some form of expertise that’s relevant to the applications being discussed. An application is usually assigned three reviewers. Each person involved in the review process has a specific role:

Scientific Review Officer (SRO):

- Ensures that all relevant rules and regulations are complied with
- Ensures that all applications get a very appropriate and thorough and fair review
- Works in partnership with the chair of the study section
- Takes notes during the discussion to comprise a paragraph entitled “Resume and Summary of Discussion” to be included in the summary statement

(Grant Clinic continued on page 3)

The Chair:

- Is recognized as a scientific authority in that field.
- Makes sure that reviewers are discussing appropriate factors that are relevant to the review
- Keeps the group on schedule – if discussion of relevant factors has been completed and no new points have been raised, terminate the discussion for vote

Primary Reviewer:

- Describes the basic goals of the application to the other two reviewers
- Describes what he/she has identified as the major strengths and weaknesses of that application
- Suggests a rating for the application

Reviewers:

- If in agreement with primary reviewer, note he/she has nothing to add
- If he/she has reached a rather different conclusion from the primary and other reviewer, present any additional points he/she may have

Remaining Panel of Committee Members:

- Participate in discussion after reviewers have presented their views
- Ask questions of clarification, discuss additional perspectives, other points they may want to raise

Once the discussion is complete or terminated, the chair will call for a vote with each reviewer noting what score they are now going to vote. The rest of the panel is then asked if they're prepared to vote within that range. After the scoring is complete, there's a discussion on issues such as budget and other administrative issues that don't impact the primary score.

In meetings where a large number of applications are reviewed, the process is streamlined with only those applications considered to be in the top half actually discussed. Applications are discussed more or less in descending order of preliminary scores.

Please remember that during the discussion, there will be a lot of people in the room who will be involved in scoring your application and they may not have read your application cover to cover. Applications that are well constructed with nice use of headings and good formatting with space between paragraphs, etc. will make it much easier for people to flip through and find things.

Please visit the CSR website for a variety of resources and further information on the peer review process, including a video that provides the perspective of some very senior reviewers.

<http://public.csr.nih.gov/Pages/default.aspx>

NIH Funding Opportunities: Requests for Applications (RFA)

August Due Dates

RFA-DA-13-007 (R01)

Identifying Health Outcomes Associated with Changes in Use of Illicit Drugs

NIDA is soliciting grant applications to test the hypothesis that reductions in illicit drug use are associated with improved health outcomes in patients. Such studies may focus on identification and or validation of strategies, methods, and tools (including biomarkers) that can assess the salutary consequences resulting from reduced use of a particular illicit drug. These objectives may be achieved either by developing new or validating currently available methodologies that will monitor a health outcome associated with changes in use of a particular illicit drug.

Application Due Date: August 22, 2012

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-DA-13-007.html>

2013 Due Dates

RFA-HL-13-013 (R01)

Cardiovascular Risk Reduction in Underserved Rural Communities

The overall objective is to build the evidence base and accelerate the implementation and translation of evidence- or practice-based interventions into practice in rural communities. To accomplish this objective, NHLBI invites applications that will plan and execute well-designed controlled trials that maximize the opportunities available in rural communities to reduce cardiovascular disease risk factors. The long-term goal is to foster sustainable interventions and scientific research that will lead to reduced cardiovascular morbidity and mortality in high-risk rural populations.

Application Due Date: January 11, 2013

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-HL-13-013.html>

Multiple Due Dates

RFA-DC-12-004 (R43/R44 (SBIR)

RFA-DC-12-005 (R41/R42 STTR)

Improving Access to Hearing Health Care

This funding opportunity solicits grant applications from small business concerns that propose to improve hearing health care outcomes and reduce health disparities through the development and commercialization of improved devices for hearing health care (HHC). "Hearing health care" is defined as assessment and access to hearing aids and nonmedical treatment, including hearing screening and hearing assessment as well as acquiring an appropriate device and services for the individual's hearing loss and communication needs. Appropriate technologies must have the following basic characteristics: easily affordable, effective, culturally acceptable, and accessible to those who need them.

Application Due Dates: February 22, 2012; June 21, 2012; October 22, 2012; February 22, 2013; June 21, 2013; and October 22, 2013

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-DC-12-004.html>

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-DC-12-005.html>

NIH Funding Opportunities: Program Announcements Reviewed by an Institute (PAR)

PAR-12-198 (R01) PAR-12-197 (R21)

Improving Diet and Physical Activity Assessment (R01)

Applications submitted under this FOA may include development of: Novel assessment approaches; better methods to evaluate instruments; assessment tools for culturally diverse populations or various age groups, including older adults; improved technology or applications of existing technology; statistical methods to assess or correct for measurement errors or biases, methods to investigate the multidimensionality of diet and physical activity behavior through pattern analysis; or integrated measurement of diet and physical activity along with the environmental context of such behaviors.

For new applications: February 5, 2013; October 5, 2013; June 5, 2014; February 5, 2015; (alternating standard R21 receipt dates)**For renewal, resubmission, and revision applications:** March 5, 2013; November 5, 2013; July 5, 2014; March 5, 2014 (alternating standard R21 receipt dates), by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization.

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-12-198.html>

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-12-197.html>

Improving Diet and Physical Activity Assessment (R21)

For new applications: February 16, 2013; October 16, 2013; June 16, 2014; February 16, 2015; (alternating standard R21 receipt dates)

For resubmission applications: March 16, 2013; November 16, 2013; July 16, 2014; March 16, 2014 (alternating standard R21 receipt dates), by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization.

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-12-197.html>

Last Call

PAR-10-018 (R01)

Accelerating the Pace of Drug Abuse Research Using Existing Epidemiology, Prevention, and Treatment Research Data

Application Due Date(s): Standard dates apply

Expiration Date: January 8, 2013

NIDA and the NCI invite applications to support the innovative analysis of existing social science and behavioral data to study the etiology and epidemiology of drug using behaviors (defined as alcohol, tobacco, and other drug), HIV risk behaviors, related disorders, prevention and treatment of these behaviors, and health service utilization including quality, access, and costs. NIDA and NCI encourage coordinated analyses of substance abuse research data that are in public use or that are privately held by a principal investigator.

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-10-018.html>

PAR-10-038 (R01); PAR-10-040 (R21); PAR-10-039 (R03)

Dissemination and Implementation Research in Health

Application Due Date(s): Standard dates apply

Expiration Date: January 8, 2013

This FOA encourages investigators to submit research grant applications that will identify, develop, and refine effective and efficient methods, structures, and strategies to disseminate and implement research-tested health behavior change interventions and evidence-based prevention, early detection, diagnostic, treatment, and quality of life improvement services into public health and clinical practice settings.

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-10-038.html>

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-10-040.html>

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-10-039.html>

NIH Funding Opportunities: Program Announcements (PA)

PA-12-185 (R01); PA-12-184 (R21)

Role of Environmental Chemical Exposure in the Development of Obesity, Type 2 Diabetes and Metabolic Syndrome

Application Due Date(s): Standard dates apply

Expiration Date: September 8, 2015

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-12-184.html>

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-12-185.html>

Last Call

PA-10-078 (R21)

Proteomics in Auditory Developmental and Disease Processes

Application Due Date(s): Standard dates apply

Expiration Date: January 8, 2013

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-10-078.html>

Last Call

PA-10-052 (R01); PA-10-053 (R21); PA-10-054 (R03)
School Nutrition and Physical Activity Policies, Obesogenic Behaviors and Weight Outcomes
Application Due Date(s): Standard dates apply
Expiration Date: January 8, 2013
<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-10-052.html>
<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-10-053.html>
<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-10-054.html>

PA-10-031 (R01); PA-10-032 (R21)
Epigenetic Approaches in Cancer Epidemiology
Application Due Date(s): Standard dates apply
Expiration Date: January 8, 2013
<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-10-031.html>
<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-10-032.html>

PA-10-042 (R01); PA-10-044 (R21); PA-10-043 (R03)
Critical Illness and Injury in Aging
Application Due Date(s): Standard dates apply
Expiration Date: January 8, 2013
<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-10-038.html>
<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-10-040.html>
<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-10-039.html>

Funding Opportunities: Foundations

Arthritis Foundation

Innovation Research Grants

This RFA is for specific targeted research projects in Rheumatoid Arthritis, Osteoarthritis, Juvenile Arthritis, and for selected projects related to the needs of all people with arthritis. The goals of the research program are to: 1) promote development of personalized medicine (i.e., best practices) for individual people with RA and JA; 2) encourage discovery and development of new interventions for OA; and 3) ensure applicability of research to humans with arthritis. Grants may be funded up to \$100,000 per year for no more than two years.

Application Due Date: August 1, 2012

<http://www.arthritis.org/research.php>

Uniting Against Lung Cancer

Legacy Program for Advances in Lung Cancer Research

The Foundation is prioritizing novel ideas with potential to make a significant impact on current treatment of lung cancer and patient survival. High priority is placed on funding research that has a clear path to clinical application and/or therapeutic development. Proposals should be focused on translational science, use clinically relevant biospecimens when possible, and incorporate predictive biomarkers of response or resistance as appropriate. Investigators at all levels, including postdoctoral and clinical fellows, will be funded through the Legacy Program and are encouraged to apply. Grants may be funded up to \$100,000 over a two year period.

Application Due Date: August 15, 2012

http://www.unitingagainstlungcancer.org/sites/default/files/u6/UALC_RFP_2012_FINAL.pdf

"Speak little; do much. Well done is better than well said." -- Benjamin Franklin

Pam will be out of the office during the months of June and July. Please contact Traci with any research questions/concerns. Have a great summer!



Please submit your comments/suggestions to jacksont@buffalo.edu or pjsturtz@buffalo.edu, 106 Kimball Tower

Awards Received Between 01/01/2012 and 06/30/2012

At 6-month intervals, we acknowledge and celebrate the success of faculty within the SPHHP who have garnered external funding. Listed below are the SPHHP faculty (alphabetized by department) who received new or renewal awards, as UB principal investigators, between 01/01/2012 and 06/30/2012.

| PI | Department | Title | Sponsor |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|
| Randolph Carter | Biostatistics | 1) Early Childhood Outcomes | NYS Dept of Health |
| | | 2) Prospective Evaluation of Lower Extremity Lymphedema in Women Undergoing Radical Surgery for Gynecologic Cancer | Health Research Inc. |
| Alan Hutson | Biostatistics | 1) Gynecologic Oncology Group Statistical and Data Center | Health Research Inc. |
| | | 2) Anti-Tumor Mechanisms and Therapeutic Effects of Vitamin D | |
| Jeffrey Miecznikowski | Biostatistics | Development and Validation of an imaging-based biomarker of therapeutic efficacy | Health Research Inc. |
| David Tritchler | Biostatistics | 1) SPORE In Endometrial Cancer | Health Research Inc. |
| | | 2) Genetic Susceptibility to Transplant-Related Mortality After Unrelated Donor Stem Cell Transplant | |
| Gregory Wilding | Biostatistics | 1) Prosaposin: A Novel Biomarker of Prostate Cancer Progression in African Americans | Health Research Inc. |
| | | 2) Targeting the Proteasome to Overcome Therapy Resistance in B-NHL | |
| | | 3) PDT Mechanisms and Strategies for Optimization: Core C | |
| Heather Orom | Community Health and Health Behavior | Barriers and Opportunities to Implementing Programs to Enhance Caregiver Coping in Minority Communities | Comm Health Fndtn of West & Cent NY |
| Nadine Fisher | Rehabilitation Science | UB CAT: Testing for Specific Performance-related Parameters in a Cooling Device | Coolture, LLC |
| Jo Freudenheim | Social and Preventive Medicine | DNA Methylation: A mechanism for aggressive breast cancer in African-American Women | Health Research Inc. |
| Michael LaMonte | Social and Preventive Medicine | Metabolic Syndrome and Periodontitis in Postmenopausal Women | National Institutes of Health |
| Amy Millen | Social and Preventive Medicine | The Role of Vitamin D in Retinal Diseases in Aging | National Institutes of Health |
| Pavani Ram | Social and Preventive Medicine | 1) Development and evaluation of perinatal hand-washing promotion for improved maternal hand-washing behavior | ICDDR, Bangladesh |
| | | 2) Analysis of multi-country hand-washing data and guidance on hand-washing behavior measures. | World Bank |