ACTS Board Nominations are Closed!

"Thank you" to everyone who submitted a nomination for the ACTS Board of Directors! We received a number of qualified individuals and look forward to putting the slate out for voting soon.

If you have any questions in regards to this process, please reach out to info@actscience.org.

ACTS Member Feature

Dr. Julianne Imperato-McGinley Featured in Weill Cornell Story

By Anne Machinski | Photos by John Abbott
June 8, 2017 | Weill Cornell Newsroom
This story first appeared in Weill Cornell Medicine, Vol. 16. No. 2

The Weill Cornell Medicine Clinical and Translational Science Center Brings Physicians and Investigators Together With New Yorkers to Nurture Scientific Discoveries Intended to Improve Human Health

While this interdisciplinary approach to medical research was once considered controversial because many senior scientists and physicians believed it would slow down the research process, today it's clear that the NIH's gamble paid off.

"I’m proud that we've been able to bring together these different institutions - each with their own culture and leadership - to work toward the same mission," says Dr. Julianne Imperato-McGinley the CTSC's founding director and principal investigator, Weill Cornell Medicine’s associate dean for translational research and education, and the Abby Rockefeller Mauzé Distinguished Professor of Endocrinology in Medicine. "CTSC-supported research now serves as an example of what successful interdisciplinary collaborations can accomplish."

Read the full article here.

Translational Science Today

Yale School of Medicine expands partnership to promote clinical trials and training in Puerto Rico

June 6, 2017 | Yale News

An expanded partnership between the Yale School of Medicine and research institutions in Puerto Rico is set to foster collaborative...
research institutions in Puerto Rico is set to foster collaborative clinical research and training opportunities in the United States and the territory.

The agreement, which began May 1, 2017, expands on a partnership first announced on February 3, 2016, between the School of Medicine, the Yale Center for Clinical Investigation (YCCI), the Puerto Rico Science, Technology, and Research Trust (PRSTRT), and the Puerto Rico Consortium for Clinical Investigation (PRCCI)*. The partnership’s goal is to improve the health of Latino people through clinical research and trials, and to train Latinos in Puerto Rico and the United States to become clinical scientists and health services researchers.

Read the full article here.

Moving Beyond Imprecision in Medicine
By Laura Joszt
June 8, 2017
During a general session at America’s Health Insurance Plans’ Institute & Expo, held June 7-9 in Austin, Texas, Eric Topol, MD, explained the buzz behind precision medicine and why it is needed to combat the harms of imprecision in medicine.

Read more at AJMC.com.

Journal of Clinical and Translational Science

Translational Science Abstracts Coming Soon
Translational science abstracts will be published soon!

The first issue of the Journal of Clinical and Translational Science has been published. Volume 1 - Issue 1 - February 2017 is now available for viewing!

JCTS’s mission is to provide a forum for the rapid communication of topics of interest and relevance to the large and diverse community of clinical and translational scientists with the goal of improving the efficiency with which health needs inform research and new diagnostics, therapies, and preventive measures reach the public. The Association for Clinical and Translational Science has partnered with the American Physician Scientists Association (APSA) and the Clinical Research Forum (CRF) to support the growth and development of JCTS.

Submit your article today to be featured in future issues of JCTS! Visit https://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/jcts.

News from The Hill

CCTS Newsletter
Dale Dirks and Dane Christiansen
June 8, 2017
On Tuesday, May 23rd, the Trump Administration released its first official budget request to Congress. Unfortunately, but not unexpectedly, the non-binding FY 2018 budget request recommends deep cuts to medical research and patient care programs. The research funding cuts were met with swift condemnation from both sides of the aisle on Capitol Hill (Congress will have the final say on FY 2018 funding levels) as lawmakers voiced their ongoing commitment to the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and related programs.

Find a summary of key items from the Administration’s FY 2018 Budget Request by visiting the ACTS Advocacy page.

NCATS "Advocacy Day" [June 30th]
Inaugural event designed to strengthen patient and community engagement.

NCATS will host its inaugural NCATS Advocacy Day - Partnering with Patients for Smarter Science on June 30, 2017, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., at the John Edward Porter Neuroscience Research Center, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Maryland. The goal is to inform patients and their advocates about NCATS and its programs, identify patient needs and challenges, and increase awareness of the research community.

We, at NHGRI, are thrilled that Dr. Francis Collins will continue as Director of the National Institutes of Health! #teamsclence #NIH
patients and their advocates about NCATS and its programs, identify patient needs and collectively discuss ways for enhanced patient inclusion in NCATS’ translational science activities. Admission is complimentary, but space is limited.

Read the full notice here.

Grants & Grant News

With $58M grant, U-M researchers will push research and health care forward with community’s help
By Kara Gavin | Michigan Medicine
May 31, 2017 | University of Michigan, Medicine

U-M has received a $58 million grant to help those ideas move forward, with Michiganders of all ages and backgrounds as partners.

The grant is from the National Institutes of Health’s (NIH) National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences (NCATS) through its Clinical and Translational Science Awards (CTSA) Program. It provides for an up to five-year new dose of funding for the Michigan Institute for Clinical & Health Research, or MICHRR, contingent on the availability of future U.S. congressional appropriations. More than 50 other universities nationwide are supported through the CTSA Program.

Read the full article here.

NIH Grant to Help Train Next Generation of Translational Scientists
By Newswise | Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center
May 30, 2017

Cardiovascular scientists at The Ohio State University Heart and Vascular Center, Dorothy M. Davis Heart and Lung Research Institute and the Department of Physiology and Cell Biology have been awarded nearly $900,000 from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to help ensure that young, eager scientists are prepared to carry on life-saving work in a multi-disciplinary setting.

Read the full article here.

New NIH Grant Opportunities
Reproductive Scientist Development Program (RSDP) (K12)
RFA-HD-18-007
K12
Physician Scientist Award (Program) (PSA)
Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD)
The purpose of this FOA issued by the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD), NIH is to announce the re-competition of the Reproductive Scientist Development Program (RSDP). This program constitutes a national network of mentors and scholars, in contrast to K12 programs that are based solely at a single applicant institution.

Institutional Development Award (IDeA) Program Infrastructure for Clinical and Translational Research (IDeA-CTR)(U54)
PAR-17-304
U54
Specialized Center- Cooperative Agreements
National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS)
The purpose of this Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) is to support the development of infrastructure and other resources required for the conduct of Clinical and Translational Research (CTR) in IDeA-eligible states. IDeA-CTR Centers are expected to provide added value to the biomedical research efforts in the participating institutions through support of activities that cannot easily be provided through standard research grant awards. The proposed activities will provide the infrastructure and resources that will enhance the competitiveness of the investigators to obtain additional funding for clinical and translational research.

Grants for Early Medical/Surgical Specialists’ Transition to Aging Research (GEMSSTAR) (R03)
RFA-AG-18-015
R03
Small Grant Program

Read the full article here.
The goal of the GEMSSTAR program is to provide support for early-career physician-scientists trained in medical or surgical specialties or early-career dentist-scientists to launch careers as future leaders in aging- or geriatric-focused research. To achieve this goal, the GEMSSTAR FOA provides small grants to conduct transdisciplinary aging research that will yield pilot data and experience for subsequent aging research projects.

Member Feature

Do you know someone who deserves to be recognized for outstanding or groundbreaking work? Send ACTS your story to be highlighted in future versions of ACTS Connection.

Submit stories to: info@actscience.org.