Stimulus Funding Update (ARRA)

As of May 15, 2010, UCDenver has submitted 527 ARRA proposals and received ARRA funding for a total of 144 ARRA awards funded at $57,760,607.

Institutional Animal Care & Use Committee (IACUC)

Revised IACUC Personnel Qualifications Form:

Please use the new, revised Personnel Qualification form on our website (please cut/paste into your browser window):
http://www.ucdenver.edu/academics/research/AboutUs/animal/IACUC when submitting forms to the IACUC Office. This new form is in effect immediately; the IACUC will no longer accept submittals of older versions of the form.

Please do not make any modifications to the form other than adding your personnel data. An example of what a properly filled out Personnel Qualifications form may look like is available at the same webpage. The IACUC uses this form to meet the federal law that requires the IACUC to ensure that research personnel are qualified to perform the animal procedures described in the protocol. The IACUC is also required to ensure that the qualifications of personnel are reviewed on a regular basis.

This is part of the longer term goal of revising the Personnel Qualification form so that it is more user friendly and is also fully integrated with the web-based online IACUC protocol application. We recognize that the old form is "clunky" and are working to improve the process. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at mark.douse@ucdenver.edu.

Dr. T's Corner

The historic health care bill that recently passed the US House of Representatives includes several lesser known provisions that may significantly affect biomedical researchers, teaching hospitals, and the biotechnology industry. The final legislation, which will become a law, would establish a new competitive grant program at NIH. This new grant program will be called the Cures Acceleration Network (CAN). This provision was written into the law by Senator Arlin Specter (D-PA), and it will authorize some $500,000,000 annually for speeding the translation of basic discoveries into treatments through individual awards of up to $15,000,000 per year. The CAN program will be separate from the already existing NIH program called Clinical and Translational Science Awards (CTSA), which also has a budget of around $483,000,000 (2010). The problem here is that this CAN program comes without new money into NIH and precisely how it will be funded remains unclear. The basic scientists and research programs around the country are concerned that if Congress does not increase the NIH budget to account for this new CAN program, funding may well be pulled from other award programs at NIH, such as the RO1 program. Another poorly known provision of this bill will expose relationships between physician researchers and the medical industry. Beginning in 2013, companies will have to report to the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) every payment in cash, stock, or kind more than $10 they make to physicians and to teaching hospitals in gifts, entertainment, and for services such as consulting and public speaking. The Department of HHS will post the payments in a publicly accessible database. Companies that produce biologics which are complicated and expensive protein-based drugs, will effectively be guaranteed by the new rule of 12 years of exclusive market access for makers of brand name biologics before generic competitors can produce "biosimilars" that mimic the original molecules. We should be cognizant of these issues as the new US health bill comes into play to determine how in reality this health bill will affect our researchers, teaching hospitals, and the biotechnology industry.

Office of Laboratory Animal Research (OLAR)

OLAR Breeding Colony Services

Are you having trouble breeding your rodents? It can be a hassle to keep track of your colony's genetics. Let the Breeding Specialists do it for you! OLAR has trained Technicians that can set up and monitor your breeding cages, including separations, weaning, ear tagging and tail snipping for genetic testing. We use detailed, record keeping software to keep track of pedigree information, line, strain, ear tag number, date of birth, sex, coat color, genotype, DNA log number and mating records. We are able to create various reports, including a census report that would be e-mailed to you at least once a week to update you on the status of your breeding mice.

For more information or questions on the breeding services offered please contact Sarah M. Johnson at sarah.m.johnson@ucdenver.edu or Melissa Ledezma at melissa.ledezma@ucdenver.edu, contact number 303-724-3982.
**Research Corner**

Teresa J. Sakraida, PhD, RN, is an Assistant Professor at UC Denver College of Nursing. She received her BSN from Goshen College, her MS in Education from Indiana University, her MSN from Indiana Wesleyan University, and her PhD from the Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. Teresa came to UC Denver in 2005. Her research program focuses on supporting health behavior change with an emphasis on promoting positive self-management behaviors among individuals with type 2 diabetes mellitus (T2DM) and chronic kidney disease (CKD).

Teresa became one of only 15 recipients of the 2008 inaugural class to receive the prestigious Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Nurse Faculty Scholar (RWJF-NFS) grant. The program’s mission is to "develop the next generation of academic nurse leaders and strengthen the overall excellence of schools or nursing ".

Teresa’s RWJF-NFS funded study known as the Self-Management and Resourceful Transition, the S.M.a.R.T. study, aims to establish the feasibility of a behavioral-education and counseling intervention for patients who have T2DM with stage 3 CKD. The combined intervention involves utilizing behavioral change approaches such as goal setting via computer assisted education alongside motivational interviewing via telephone counseling. The SMaRT Study primary outcome measures include hemoglobin A1C, self-report of quality of life, and self-report of disease burden.

Teresa’s study is timely given that the prevalence of diabetes in the United States continues to rise and T2DM comprises 90% of all cases. It is estimated that 20-40% of T2DM patients will progress to overt chronic kidney disease. The moderate, stage 3 CKD population tend to have a high mortality rate, increasingly visible CKD symptoms, and a tendency toward less personal emphasis on glucose management.

Teresa indicates that stage 3 CKD is an invisible disease since general symptoms such as high blood pressure and fatigue are not perceived as part of the disease process. Individuals may not recognize how managing their glycemic health plays a part in kidney disease management. Those patients that are aware of their kidney disease may have health literacy limitations and do not fully understand what their providers tell them. Providers are challenged to simplify the message of care and to tailor goal-setting to both diabetes and kidney disease.

Dr. Sakraida has supplemented her grant protocol with CCTSI funding that allowed her to add CTRC support and biomarkers such as cystatin C (a measure of eGFR), lipid profile (cardiovascular risk), and c-reactive protein (inflammatory marker). Currently, the SMaRT study is in the recruiting phase, with plans to begin the intervention phase in summer 2010.

**Grants and Contracts (OGC)**

**Subrecipient Monitoring Requirements for Sponsored Projects**

It is UC Denver policy for the Principal Investigator, Administrators and OGC to have timely ongoing communication with and ongoing monitoring of organizations subcontracted by the University of Colorado Denver (UCDenver) to perform certain services for UC Denver prime-awarded sponsor projects. Adherence to federal requirements and private sponsor requirements for monitoring subrecipients is critical to the successful management of UC Denver sponsored projects requiring contracted assistance from entities or individuals outside UC Denver. The basic requirements of subrecipient monitoring follow.

When there is a subcontract from a UC Denver primary award, the UCD PI is responsible for monitoring the subrecipient’s use of award funding to provide reasonable assurance that the subrecipient is in compliance with laws, regulations and conditions of the contract. PIs should be monitoring reports, have regular contact, conduct site visits when necessary and be sure the subrecipient is following the procedures articulated as part of the scope of work.

Subrecipient monitoring has become a highly scrutinized aspect of federally funded projects. We encourage PIs directing projects that involve subcontracts to use the OGC Fiscal Policy for Subrecipient Monitoring 4-17 as a guide for accomplishing this important responsibility. This policy can be found at the OGC website.

**Office of Research Development and Education (ORDE)**

UCD researchers may now take advantage of a new subscription service called Grant Advisor Plus, an on-line publication and database. Grant Advisor Plus provides a very informative monthly newsletter featuring specific upcoming funding opportunities plus a deadlines listing by discipline. In addition to the newsletter, a searchable database contains information on available funding opportunities in all disciplines. Be sure to check out this new resource. We have a link for Grant Advisor Plus on our website at http://research.cudenver.edu in the ORDE Updates section. On the Grant Advisor Plus website, select “Subscriber Pages” to go to the newsletter and database. Note that this resource is available from any computer on the University domain and can also be accessed via password when off-campus. Please contact us at 303-315-5822 with any questions you have about this new resource or for this month’s password information.

**Office of Laboratory Animal Research (OLAR)**

**DEA License Reminder**

According to our agreement with the DEA, all existing Investigators using Controlled Substances in their research must be at least in the process of obtaining their DEA Controlled Substance Registration by June 30, 2010. For a link to the OLAR Policy regarding DEA licenses please cut/paste this link into your browser window: http://www.ucdenver.edu/academics/research/AboutUs/animal/Pages/Policies.aspx. If you have any questions, please contact Laura Richardson, Veterinary Technician Manager, or Jori Leszcynski, University Veterinarian and Director of OLAR.

For additional useful information on DEA Registration and the UC Denver Reverse Distributor program please go to http://www.uchsc.edu/safety/HazardousWaste/DEA-ControlledSubstances.htm (you may have to type the address instead of copying due to pdf conversion)