Hey Community Engagers,

"Enthusiasm," "excitement," and "energetic" were some of the descriptive words overheard following the robust and intensive discussions at our September CCTSI PACT Council Retreat in Vail. Facilitators Chris Adams and Suzanne White, indeed, were challenged in managing the many waving cards of Council members to cut in line to speak! A lot of aspiring ideas came out of the meeting to carry the PACT forward for the next 5-7 years. Thank you for being there!

Many thanks to all who organized and those who participated in the hugely successful Engaging Communities in Education and Research: Building Partnerships (ECER) Conference in Vail a couple of weeks ago. This was the largest conference that the Vail Marriott has ever had and the largest dinner on Saturday night they'd ever prepared (about 725). Of the 441 conference participants, over 210 were preceptors to students and over 300 were associated with organizations other than the University. To observe educators, researchers, practitioners, and community members network and connect with one another throughout the entire conference was amazingly rewarding!

Alexis Thurlow, CCTSI ResearchMatch Liaison, recently reported that 20 new people registered as ResearchMatch volunteers during the ECER Conference in Vail. Another interesting statistic: to date the total number of participants “matched” with studies in the Colorado ResearchMatch registry is 125. Let's continue to spread the word and support this initiative.

Upcoming in October...
Remember the 2nd Annual CCTSI Research Ethics Conference "Cradle to Grave: Ethical Issues in Lifespan Research" is coming up on Wednesday, October 12, 2011, 12:00 Noon to 5:00pm, in the Tri-Visible Room/Research 2 building, room 2100, Anschutz Medical Campus. Dr. Jeffrey Botkin, Professor at University of Utah, will give the keynote address "Ethical Issues in Lifespan Research by Developmental Stages." The event is free and lunch is complimentary. RSVP to Marylou Wallace at 303-724-3994. Should be interesting and hope to see you there.

The monthly CCTSI Nuts & Bolts Series is kicking off on Wednesday, October 19th, 3:30pm. The series features a different CCTSI core each month—the first is Education, Training & Career Development, with Community Engagement scheduled to present on April 18. All Nuts & Bolts events will be in the AO1 building, 7th Floor Boardroom, at University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus. See topic descriptions and dates at http://cctsi.ucdenver.edu/training-and-education/Pages/NutsBoltsSeries.aspx.
Another interesting and thought-provoking opportunity is the Distinguished Levitt Speaker Series: Innovations in Health and Healthcare, "The Copernican Shift: The World Looks Different with the Patient at the Center," with e-Patient Dave (Dave deBronkhart) speaking about engaging the patient in creating and managing his/her own health in partnership with physicians. **October 31, 2011**, Noon to 1:30pm, Hensel Phelps Auditorium West, Research 1 North building, Anschutz Medical Campus. Complimentary lunch provided. RSVP to Linda Niebauer at 303-724-9767.

**Research Funding Opportunities**: See the attached announcement from the American Heart Association and distribute to interested community and academic researchers. Note that the winter application deadlines are January 2012.

**For Your Reading Pleasure...**
Risa Lavizzo-Mourey, President and CEO of Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, gave the keynote address at the Institute for the Advancement of Multicultural & Minority Medicine's Martin Luther King, Jr. "Health Equity Summit in Washington DC. Better Health for All Americans: Bending the Arch Toward Justice." She emphasized that "America cannot reconcile the differences that divide us without also reconciling the inequality and injustice embedded so deeply in the health and health care of our people." Find her inspiring speech at: [http://www.rwjf.org/pr/product.jsp?id=72727](http://www.rwjf.org/pr/product.jsp?id=72727).

The latest issue of *Public Health Reports*, Volume 126, Supplement 3, focuses on data systems and their use in addressing social determinants of health. Sponsored by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Public Health Reports brings attention to the increasing burden and inequities in some health outcomes, as well as the use of data to expand the knowledge base on social determinants of health.

[http://fridayletter.asph.org/article_view.cfm?FLE_Index=16504&FL_Index=1692](http://fridayletter.asph.org/article_view.cfm?FLE_Index=16504&FL_Index=1692)

Here's something intriguing from SMU Research: "White favoritism by Major League umps lowers minority pitcher performance, pay. Findings important when measuring the extent of wage discrimination not only in baseball, but also in broader labor market."


Have a great weekend!

Jack Westfall
### Research Funding Opportunities

The AHA funds research broadly related to cardiovascular function and disease and stroke, or to related clinical, basic science, bioengineering or biotechnology, and public health problems, including multidisciplinary efforts.

**Winter Application Deadlines:** January 2012  
**Web site:** [www.my.americanheart.org/research](http://www.my.americanheart.org/research)

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| **Medical Student Research Program**                                    | Encourages promising students, including women and members of minority groups underrepresented in the sciences, from all disciplines to consider research careers while supporting the highest quality scientific investigation broadly related to cardiovascular disease and stroke. The research opportunity will allow students to work for 8, 10 or 12 weeks with a faculty/staff member on any project broadly related to cardiovascular disease/function or stroke. The goal is to encourage students to consider a future academic career in this area.  
*Offered by:* Western States Affiliate |
| **Undergraduate Student Research Program**                              | The purpose of this undergraduate research training program is to encourage promising students from all disciplines, including women and members of minority groups underrepresented in the sciences, to consider research careers while supporting the highest quality scientific investigation broadly related to cardiovascular disease and stroke.  
*Offered by:* Midwest, SouthWest and Western States Affiliates |
| **Fellow-to-Faculty Transition Award**                                  | Provides funding for trainees with outstanding potential for careers as physician-scientists in cardiovascular or stroke research during the crucial period of career development that spans the completion of research training through the early years of the first faculty/staff position.  
| **Beginning Grant-In-Aid**                                             | Promotes the independent status of promising beginning scientists.  
*Offered by:* Great Rivers, Mid-Atlantic, SouthWest and Western States Affiliates |
| **Scientist Development Grant**                                        | Supports highly promising beginning scientists in their progress toward independence by encouraging and adequately funding research projects that can bridge the gap between completion of research training and readiness for successful competition as an independent investigator.  
*Offered by:* National, Founders and Midwest Affiliates |
| **Grant-In-Aid**                                                       | Encourages and adequately funds the most innovative and meritorious research projects from independent investigators.  
*Offered by:* Offered by: Founders, Great Rivers, Greater Southeast, Mid-Atlantic, Midwest, SouthWest and Western States Affiliates |
| **Predoctoral Fellowship**                                             | Helps students initiate careers in cardiovascular and stroke research by providing research assistance and training.  
*Offered by:* Founders, Great Rivers, Greater Southeast, Mid-Atlantic, Midwest, SouthWest and Western States Affiliates |
| **Postdoctoral Fellowship**                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| **Clinical Research Program** | **Helps trainees initiate careers in cardiovascular and stroke research while obtaining significant research results under the supervision of a sponsor or mentor; supports individuals before they are ready for some stage of independent research.**  
*Offered by: Founders, Great Rivers, Greater Southeast, Mid-Atlantic, Midwest, SouthWest and Western States Affiliates* |
|---|---|
| Encourages early career investigators who have appropriate and supportive mentoring relationships to engage in high quality introductory and pilot clinical studies that will guide future strategies for reducing cardiovascular disease and stroke while fostering new research in clinical and translational science, and encouraging community- and population-based activities.  
*Offered by: National* | The method for applying for funding is Web based, using our electronic system, Grants@Heart. The system is available 24/7 and requires internet connection. |
| **New! AHA Membership Requirement** |  |
| Beginning with the winter 2012 deadlines, applicants are required to become an AHA Professional Member. *Annual professional membership levels start at $75*. One benefit of AHA membership is that the application fee of $100 for each application submission is waived for members. There are several other benefits to becoming a member. Please logon to [www.my.americanheart.org](http://www.my.americanheart.org) for more information.  
*Undergraduate student program applicants are exempt from the requirement.* |  |
| **Contact Us** |  |
| To contact American Heart Association Research Funding email [apply@heart.org](mailto:apply@heart.org) |  |