CONNECTIONS

Director’s Corner: Ron Sokol, MD
It’s hard to believe that the first quarter of 2016 is nearly over. Our year started out in usual fashion with our annual External Advisory Committee (EAC) meeting, where we bring in a group of external reviewers to review the progress we are making in the CCTSI. We are very fortunate to have a talented and engaged group of reviewers (see sidebar list below). We are awaiting their written report, but I have heard many comments from our Pillar Program Directors and Core Directors that receiving the input from the EAC in January was very helpful, and that this meeting was an especially productive one. The EAC report is included in our annual progress report to NIH (now called the RPPR) ...and we are already preparing our next competing grant application due in May, 2017.

Did You Know?
Did you know that federally sponsored grants of $500,000 or more require a data sharing plan? (And in some cases, smaller grants also require a data sharing plan.)

According to the National Science Foundation, “Investigators are expected to share with other researchers, at no more than at an incremental cost and within a reasonable time, the primary data samples, physical collections, and other supporting materials created or gathered in the course of work under NSF grants. Grantees are expected to encourage and facilitate such sharing.” The NIH is preparing to release a similar policy soon.

The good news is that CU Anschutz has invested in resources to assist you with questions you may have on how to create a data sharing plan. C. Tobin Magle, PhD, Biomedical Sciences Research Support Specialist and Senior Instructor at the Health Sciences Library is here to assist you. For more information about data management, click here. And for questions or assistance regarding data sharing requirements, click here.

2016 CO, CNS and CMH Pilot Awardees
We recently announced the CCTSI Pilot Grant Awardees for the 2016 Colorado Pilot (CO-Pilot), Center for Neurosciences Pilot (CNS-Pilot), and Child and Maternal Health Pilot (CMH-Pilot) Programs.

Congratulations to the awardees of the 21 grants in these programs, which total nearly $1 million!

The CCTSI would like to thank the investigators who applied to these CCTSI Pilot Programs this year; the grant reviewers who participated in the selection committees; program managers Sandra Chalmers, Aimee Oke, Sandra Logue and Bonnie Savone who coordinated the review and award administration processes; and Pilot Program Directors Thomas Campbell, MD, Susan VandeWoude, DVM, Jeffrey Bennett, MD PhD, and Bill Hay Jr., MD.
Upcoming Funding Opportunities
*Click on the links below to find out more about upcoming CCTSI funding opportunities:*

**Phase II Novel Clinical and Translational Methods RFA**

**Community Engagement Pilot Program (CE-Pilot)**

**New Opportunity: I-Corps**
Do you have a great idea? Do you want to learn how to translate your innovative work in biomedicine to viable commercial products?
Then the Innovation Corps (I-Corps) program is for you! The CCTSI is launching this new entrepreneurship training program, and we are looking for teams of innovators to participate.

**Save the Dates: 9/22/16 - 9/23/16**
Save the dates of September 22 and 23, 2016 to participate in this inaugural two-day training session on the Anschutz Medical Campus.

**Question: What is I-Corps?**
**Answer:** A rigorous entrepreneurship training program developed by the National Science Foundation. The Innovation Corps (I-Corps) program, first launched in 2011, provides entrepreneurship training initially for NSF-funded scientists and engineers, and now for CCTSI members, pairing them with business mentors for an intensive curriculum focused on discovering a truly demand-driven path from their lab work to a marketable product.

The NIH is expanding this I-Corps program to accelerate the commercialization of biomedical technologies developed with Federal Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) / Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) funding. The expanded I-Corps program at NIH will train life-sciences entrepreneur project teams receiving funding from 12 institutes and centers at the NIH and the Centers for Disease Control.

The NIH will apply the I-Corps teaching methodology to the Clinical and Translational Science Awards (CTSA) program funded by the National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences (NCATS). By training new I-Corps educators and researchers at 10 CTSA institutions, who in turn can provide entrepreneurship training for other translational scientists, the I-Corps at the CTSA program will prepare participants to identify and develop valuable commercial opportunities that emerge from the research setting, with the intent of moving discoveries more quickly into treatments and cures.
CU Denver is one of these 10 CTSA sites across the nation that has been awarded the opportunity to offer the I-Corps training. On the Anschutz Medical Campus, I-Corps is supported by the Chancellor’s Office and is co-sponsored by the Technology Transfer Office and the CU Research Marketplace.

Stay tuned for several informational open houses that will take place this spring. For more information on the training, contact Elaine Morrato.

Tell Us Your Story!
The CCTSI has launched a section of our website called Found in Translation: stories about the impact of the CCTSI.

Read about researchers like Torri Metz, MD (at left)—recent CCTSI CMH Pilot Grant recipient—who is leading a study on the detection of marijuana use by pregnant mothers in a legalized environment.

If you have an idea for a story about a study or a researcher that illustrates the difference the CCTSI is making across the research spectrum and in the community, contact Wendy Meyer.

Upcoming Events
• March 3, 2016: Natural Animal Models Seminar
The CCTSI and Colorado State University (CSU) will co-host a lunch-time Seminar on the research opportunities and advantages of studying Natural Animal Models of Human Disease. Lunch will be provided.

The objective of this seminar is to establish new collaborations using naturally occurring animal models of human disease between faculty at the Anschutz Medical Campus and our affiliated hospitals with faculty in the CSU College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences. Hundreds of companion animals with these disorders are followed at the Teaching Hospital of the Vet School at CSU.

The Natural Animal Models Seminar will take place from noon to 1:30 pm on March 3 in the Gossard Forum of the Fulginiti Pavilion on the CU Anschutz Medical Campus. Click here for more information. If you have questions, please contact Wendy Meyer.

• March 8, 2016: CCTSI Faculty and Staff Forum
Join your colleagues on March 8, 2016 at 1:00 in the afternoon for a one-hour informational meeting in the Gossard Forum of the Fulginiti Pavilion. Take an hour out of your day to:

• Learn about the outcomes from the recent External Advisory Committee meeting.
• Meet your colleagues and enjoy some light refreshments.
• Put a face to the name of that person you routinely email but haven’t met!
• Hear some updates from CCTSI Director Ron Sokol, MD.
• Take part in a Q & A Session on CCTSI topics of interest to you.

Please RSVP and share an anonymous CCTSI-related question you would like Dr. Sokol to address in the Q & A. If you have questions or would like more information, please contact Wendy Meyer or Emily Warren.

• May 12, 2016: NCATS Advisory Council and CAN Review Board Meeting
The NCATS Advisory Council and CAN Review Board will convene a joint meeting on May 12, 2016. The meeting will feature reports from NCATS Director Christopher P. Austin, M.D., and others about the Center’s initiatives, policies, programs and future direction. In accordance with Public Law 92-463, the session will be open to the public; meetings are typically videocast. Learn more about the NCATS Advisory Council and the CAN Review Board.