WHO YOU GONNA CALL?

NIH Public Access Policy/Citing Grants

Do you note grant support from ICTS, the Siteman Cancer Center (SCC) or other NIH-funded Cores in your published works? Do you know what a PMCID is? If not, you may be violating a federal regulation that went into effect on April 7, 2008. Although considerable communication about the NIH Public Access Policy has been provided through the Office of Vice Chancellor for Research and Becker Medical Library, it came to our attention while preparing our annual progress reports that many authors do not fully understand this regulation. Due to missing PMCIDs and some works which did not cite our grant number, we were unable to include several publications in our annual progress report.

NIH Public Access Policy

The NIH Public Access Policy (http://publicaccess.nih.gov/policy.htm) requires scientists to submit (or have submitted for them) their final, peer-reviewed journal manuscripts to PubMed Central (http://www.pubmedcentral.nih.gov/) a digital archive, upon acceptance of publication. To help advance science and improve human health, the NIH requires that these works be accessible to the public on PubMed Central no later than 12 months after publication. A PMCID is assigned when the work is posted to Pub Med Central. The PMCID serves as documentation of compliance with the NIH policy.

Who Does the NIH Policy Apply to?

Anyone that receives a service from an ICTS, Siteman Cancer Center (SCC) or other NIH-funded Core is receiving benefit from NIH funding! Even if the prime funding for your research is provided by another agency, company or departmental funds, and if the research includes consultation or services provided by an NIH-funded core (e.g., ICTS, SCC), the NIH also provided support and therefore considers published works subject to the NIH policy.

Who is Responsible for Compliance?

Institutions and Principal Investigators (PI) are responsible for compliance. The PI of the grant is also responsible even if they are not an author or co-author of a work that falls under the NIH policy. Compliance involves:

- Retaining the right to comply

(See NIH Policy; page 4)

MESSAGE FROM THE CO-DIRECTOR

Dr. Bradley A. Evanoff

We submitted our 2nd annual progress report two weeks ago. It was exciting to summarize the breadth and depth of clinical and translational research performed by ICTS members. In our third year of the ICTS, we will continue to improve research support services, offer research funding, and assist investigators with regulatory compliance. Looking ahead to our future progress reports and competitive renewal, I wanted to briefly address appropriate funding and PMCID citations.

As we compiled the list of ICTS related publications for our report, it became clear that many ICTS investigators are not following the NIH Public Access policy, nor citing all appropriate grants in their publications. For all publications related to NIH grants, investigators must cite the appropriate grant(s) and obtain a PMCID. These citations are important to the continued funding of research core and infrastructure services, and for NIH funding applications by individual faculty. These errors of omission are primarily due to lack of awareness about NIH policies, or failure to recognize that research support services provided by a Core are subject to these rules. Please remember to cite the ICTS in all publications that made use of ICTS Cores or services (see http://www.icts.wustl.edu/about/nihfundingacknowledgment.aspx). PMCID numbers are easy to obtain, and are required for all funded NIH research. From the viewpoint of the NIH reviewers, if our grant isn’t cited in a publication that has a PMCID number, then our research support service never happened.

To assist researchers with access to services and with regulatory compliance, WUSM is continuing to work toward a single portal to access resources and regulations in support of clinical and translational research. During the next year, the ICTS Administrative Core will be focused on automating data collection for our Cores, helping build additional tools such as a directory of WU Cores, and building tools for facilitating and tracking collaborations among researchers. We are also working with the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research to integrate additional services with their Research Gateway. Among several useful functions, this site has consolidated research compliance functions for individual faculty into a single site (http://research.wustl.edu/Pages/ResearchGateway.aspx).
CLINICAL RESEARCH TRAINING CENTER SELECTS SCHOLARS

The Clinical Research Training Center KL2 Career Development Awards Program has selected its new KL2 Scholars, who will begin July 1, 2009. They are:

- Li-Shiun Chen, MD; Instructor, WU Department of Psychiatry
- Andria Ford, MD; Instructor, WU Department of Neurology
- Erin Foster, OTD; Instructor, WU Program in Occupational Therapy
- Jonas Marschall, MD; Clinical Fellow, WU Department of Medicine, Division of Infectious Diseases
- Peter Nagele, MD; Assistant Professor, WU Department of Anesthesiology
- Shelby Sullivan, MD; Instructor, WU Department of Medicine, Division of Gastroenterology

These awards provide high-quality, multidisciplinary training in clinical and translational research to promote the career development of future clinical investigators.

The Clinical Research Training Center, a component of the ICTS, provides a cohesive and supportive infrastructure to foster clinical research training and career development for pre-doctoral students, house staff, post-doctoral fellows and faculty. Active mentoring, hands-on research experiences and formal didactic programs in clinical research methods leading to a certificate or master’s degree in clinical investigation are core components of the program.

FIVE WUSTL SCIENTISTS AWARDED BEAR CUB GRANTS

By Caroline Arbanas

Washington University has awarded five Bear Cub Fund grants totaling $150,000 to support innovative research that shows commercial potential.

The grants were awarded to: Zhou-Feng Chen, Ph.D., associate professor of anesthesiology, of psychiatry and of developmental biology; Dan Moran, Ph.D., assistant professor of biomedical engineering, of physical therapy and of neurobiology; Brian Dieckgrafe, M.D., Ph.D., associate professor of medicine; Robyn Klein, M.D., associate professor of medicine, of pathology and immunology; and of neurobiology; and Michael Pasque, M.D., professor of surgery and of radiology.

Chen, who in 2007 identified the first gene for itch sensation in the central nervous system, will undertake a project to identify drugs that can reduce chronic itching. While itching caused by bug bites or allergic reactions can be treated effectively with antihistamine drugs, these medications don’t work well for chronic itching related to skin ailments, kidney failure or liver disease.

Moran’s project will evaluate whether a new technique can improve the success of lumbar spinal fusion surgery. Moran and his colleagues developed a technique to electrically stimulate the bone matrix within spinal vertebrae, which has been shown in preliminary studies to improve the fusion of vertebrae.

Dieckgrafe’s grant will fund work to improve production of the immune-stimulating drug GM-CSF for the treatment of Crohn’s disease. Early reports have suggested that the drug, modeled after the naturally occurring GM-CSF protein, can improve Crohn’s disease. Unfortunately, the drug must be given daily by injection, and the way the drug is currently produced can reduce its effectiveness. Dieckgrafe plans to modify production to counter these issues.

Klein will develop production of the antibody CXCR4 and investigate whether it can be used to diagnose multiple sclerosis (MS) or track progression of the disease. Extensive magnetic resonance imaging is used to diagnose MS patients and monitor disease progression, but the scans can be inconclusive. Klein is interested in developing a blood test for MS that correlates levels of the CXCR4 antibody with the extent of disease.

Pasque seeks to develop technology that integrates from a single MRI scan of the heart, information about cardiac function and anatomy. Patients with suspected heart problems must undergo different types of heart scans to assess heart function and anatomy. Pasque said he hopes his technology eventually will simplify the diagnosis of heart ailments.

The Bear Cub Fund, made up of endowment income and capital from private sources, is administered through the University’s Office of Technology Management. The office worked with BioGenerator and other advisers from the St. Louis life sciences community to select awardees.
BJHF/ICTS Funding Program Announces Awardees

The Barnes-Jewish Hospital Foundation (BJHF) and the ICTS partnered to offer a joint Clinical and Translation Research Funding Awards Program. A total of 118 full applications were received by the deadline of November 17, 2008 including 88 Research Grants and 30 Planning Grants. Each application was assigned to 3 reviewers and the Research Design and Biostatistics Group provided feedback on the statistical design of each application. In late January, over 80 investigators participated in one of the 3 review panels modeled after the NIH Study Section process.

The average panel score was calculated and 34 applications had priority scores better than 2.00. The ICTS Executive Committee and Dr. Jonathan Gottlieb (representing the BJHF) approved funding for 24 applications (7 Planning Grants and 17 Research Grants) with an award start date of June 1, 2009. Principal Investigators and the title of the grant receiving awards can be found in the News section of the ICTS website (http://www.icts.wustl.edu/).

Awardees for all ICTS programs can be found through the “Funding Opportunities” section of the website (http://www.icts.wustl.edu/funding/).

All applicants will receive a Summary Statement that includes the written critiques by the primary and secondary reviewers as well as the Research Design and Biostatistics Group. The ICTS Administrative Core includes staff that has over 30 years of experience in grant management. That expertise combined with the feedback experienced researchers provide through written evaluations will hopefully assist investigators as they navigate the application process to pursue outside funding for their research.

We anticipate running this program annually, with the next round of applications due fall 2009. Questions may be directed to icts@dom.wustl.edu.

Events & Announcements

- February 16 (7:30 am—3:30 pm): The 2nd annual ICTS External Advisory Board meeting was held in the Center for Advanced Medicine, Farrell Conference Room. ICTS Program Directors provided updates and 3 Core service users gave examples of how the ICTS resources have supported their research. The 6 attending board members met in closed session and then with ICTS leadership and provided written feedback that was included in the NIH CTSA annual progress report.

- The committee was unanimous in the opinion that the ICTS has continued to make excellent progress. The impressive number of core resources and funding opportunities made available through the ICTS was noted.

- March 4-6 Washington University School of Medicine hosted a national meeting on behalf of the National Institutes of Health Office of Research in Women’s Health (ORWH).

The funding acknowledgement statement is posted on the ICTS website.
**NIH Policy, From Page 1**

- Submitting the peer-reviewed manuscript to PMC upon acceptance of publication (in many instances the journal publisher will submit on behalf of authors)
- Approving the submission
- Citing the PMCID reference number in future NIH proposals, applications and progress reports.

The first step for compliance is to check the NIH Journal List (http://publicaccess.nih.gov/submit_process_journals.htm). The journals on this list submit ALL NIH-funded final published articles to PubMed Central. If the journal being considered for publication is on this list, then the only step for compliance is to cite the PMCID reference number in NIH applications, proposals or progress reports.

If the journal being considered for publication is not on the NIH Journal List (http://publicaccess.nih.gov/submit_process_journals.htm), then authors will need to ensure that they follow copyright law by retaining the right from publishers to comply with the NIH policy. See How to Comply (http://becker.wustl.edu/services/scholarly/nihpolicy.html#comply).

**Citing Grant(s)**

Anyone that uses an ICTS Core should be including an acknowledgement of the CTSA grant (Grant Number UL1 RR024992). ICTS grant-supported scholars and trainees should reference either the Multidisciplinary Clinical Research Career Development Program grant (KL2 RR024994) or the Clinical Research Predoctoral Training Program (TL1 RR024995). The CTSA annual progress report includes publications from all ICTS Core users and indicates if the grant was cited in the publication.

**Who to Contact?**

- For assistance with citing the appropriate grant: Contact the ICTS Administrative Core at icts@dom.wustl.edu or 314-362-9829.
- For assistance with compliance with the NIH policy including demonstration of compliance issues: Contact Cathy Sarli at sarlic@wustl.edu.

**NIH Public Access Policy Information**

- Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research Public Access at WUSTL (http://research.wustl.edu/PoliciesGuidelines/Pages/NHPublicAccess.aspx)

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**Have You Met? Dan Detlefsen?**

Have you ever played basketball in full sunlight at 3 a.m.? Or tossed a cup of water into the air and watched it evaporate before it hit the ground? Dan Detlefsen has. On active duty with the U.S. Air Force in Fairbanks, Alaska for a total of 12 years, Dan had plenty of opportunity for such experiences. Responsible for fighter aircraft maintenance, Dan often worked outside in temperatures of -50 degrees and has experienced -69 degrees without wind chill. In his usual exuberant tone, Dan says “The first 8 winters were okay, but after that, it began to take its toll.”

Born in Alabama and raised in Nebraska, Dan served in the Army National Guard during his senior year in High School and transferred into the active duty Air Force upon graduation. His first oversees assignment was in Turkey and he has had assignments in Germany, Spain, Korea, Japan and Alaska as well as state side. Before retiring from the Air Force in March of 2008, he was stationed 4 years at Scott Air Force Base as a 1st Sergeant, serving as the right-hand of the squadron commander.

How did a guy who spent 26 years in the Air Force get to Washington University? During a big St. Louis snowstorm, Dan braved the “cold” temperatures to attend a job fair at Busch Stadium. Tammy Rahn, an employment specialist from WU Human Resources, noticed him hovering around the WU booth and engaged him in conversation. Searching for the perfect position for Sergeant Dan, Tammy eventually linked him to a job opening at the ICTS Clinical Research Training Center.

Dan is the Program Coordinator for the Predoctoral Program led by Dr. Jay Piccirillo, the Postdoctoral Program and the Master of Science in Clinical Investigation, both led by Dr. Bradley Evanoff. Dan provides one-on-one orientation and counseling for trainees and scholars explaining such things as how to meet the requirements to attain a Masters of Science in Clinical Investigation. In addition to these 3 ongoing programs, Dan assists in special projects such as the upcoming National Predoctoral Clinical Research Training Program Meeting to be hosted here on May 4 and 5 (see “Events & Announcements”, page 3). Using both his vast organizational skills and friendly demeanor, Dan is instrumental in supporting the scholars and trainees in these programs.

Dan’s wife is also career Air Force. They married while on assignment in Alaska, where Dan liked to bow hunt caribou and moose. A lover of the great outdoors, Dan wants to travel to Australia someday to see a great white shark. But he’s quick to point out; he wants to be in a cage, safe from shark attack.

For more information about the programs offered through the Clinical Research Training Center, see our website at http://www.icts.wustl.edu/cores/crtc.aspx or contact Dan at ddettefs@wustl.edu or 314-454-8540.