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Indiana CTSI launches multi-state consortium to spark translational medicine collaborations

June 10, 2014

A research institute centered at the Indiana University School of Medicine has launched a new organization to spark innovative collaborations across academic research centers and the biopharmaceutical industry.

The program, called the Strategic Pharma-Academic Research Consortium for Translational Medicine, or SPARC, has been established by the [Indiana Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute](#), a \$60 million National Institutes of Health-funded collaboration among IU, Purdue University and the University of Notre Dame. Inaugural members include the Indiana CTSI and several universities with academic medical centers also supported by NIH Clinical and Translational Science Awards, as well as two major pharmaceutical companies, Eli Lilly and Co. and Takeda Pharmaceuticals International Inc.

"SPARC will provide a platform for research projects that build upon the unique strengths of academia and industry," said Anantha Shekhar, M.D., Ph.D., director of the Indiana Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute and associate vice president for university clinical affairs at IU. "This new organization will combine the best aspects of both groups, in both basic discovery and compound development, to unlock a new model for innovation."

A [request for applications is online](#) for faculty members at participating institutions interested in applying for support from the consortium. Successful applicants will receive up to \$400,000 over two years.

Spearheaded by the Indiana CTSI, SPARC was born in July 2012 when the institute hosted a first-of-its-kind meeting to discuss potential partnerships among 17 directors of CTSA-funded centers, university technology transfer officers and industry. The inaugural CTSA-funded institutions to join the consortium are:

- [The Ohio State University Center for Clinical and Translational Science.](#)
- [Northwestern University Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute.](#)
- [The Institute of Clinical and Translational Sciences at Washington University in St. Louis.](#)

IU, Purdue and Notre Dame will participate in the program through their affiliation with the Indiana CTSI.

The consortium will initially focus on advancing research on autoimmune diseases because of the high concentration of expertise on the topic among partnership members and the lack of other large-scale consortiums focused on the topic.

Potential other projects could include identifying target mechanisms for new medicines or advancing the emerging field of personalized medicine, which uses genetics to determine the most effective treatment for a specific patient population.

The consortium's industrial partners will provide financial sponsorship to the projects, which will be selected by an independent governance council that includes equal representation for each member. The academic members will contribute to the group through mechanisms such as pooling resources and cost sharing. The inaugural members of the consortium have committed to support the funded research for at least five years.

"Academic collaborations have become an increasingly important component of the pharmaceutical industry's overall innovation strategy," said Andrew Dahlem, Ph.D., vice president of operations for [Lilly Research Laboratories](#) at Eli Lilly and Co. "We are pleased to be partnering on SPARC, which envisions



The Indiana CTSI hosted the first meeting of Midwestern CTSA-funded institutions with drug makers two years ago in Indianapolis.



Jamie Dananberg, M.D., left, head of the R&D therapeutic area group at Takeda Pharmaceuticals, and David Johnson, president and CEO of Biocrossroads speak during a meeting hosted by the Indiana CTSI.



Troy Hege of Biocrossroads, left; Anantha Shekhar, M.D., Ph.D., director of the Indiana CTSI; and Dr. Dananberg.



Andrew Dahlem, Ph.D., right, vice president of operations for Lilly Research Laboratories, at the SPARC kick-off meeting in July

a unique approach to this consortium, focused on creating the ability to identify, fund and implement research projects proposed by scientific teams that span multiple institutions, each with distinct capabilities and strengths."

"This consortium holds such potential to further our understanding of disease biology in humans and to work on projects of mutual interest to advance translational medicine," said Jamie Dananberg, M.D., head of the R&D therapeutic area group at [Takeda Pharmaceuticals](#). "We look forward to the partnerships with fellow industry members and academia to address scientific and technological research challenges."

"The possibilities are as limitless as the imaginations of the many talented researchers and scientific leaders who work at the universities and businesses that comprise this partnership," added Dr. Shekhar, also associate dean for translational medicine and the Raymond Houck Professor of Psychiatry at the [IU School of Medicine](#). "We've purposely structured the consortium in a manner that allows partners beyond the initial membership to join later on, creating a system that can grow or change to meet almost any challenge."

Translational medicine is the art of taking results from medical research conducted in the lab and academic clinics into safe and innovative new treatments and therapies used to treat patients in general medical practice. The consortium will leverage the strengths and unique capabilities of its members to tackle large-scale translational medicine projects that require multi-instructional, multi-expert collaborations across the public and private sectors.

The new consortium represents an important step in the evolution of the Indiana CTSI, one of more than 60 centers established by the NIH to increase emphasis on translating basic research to clinical application to improve human health. Over the past six years, the Indiana CTSI worked to successfully streamline funding mechanisms across the state's top research institutes to create a powerful translational research pipeline across Indiana. SPARC represents an extension of this pipeline beyond the state's borders through connections with business as well as other CTSA centers working towards similar goals across the country.

The new consortium was facilitated in part by [Biocrossroads](#), an Indianapolis-based organization that connects corporations, academic institutions and philanthropic organizations to advance the state's strengths in the life sciences.

News of the consortium has also made an impact on local news media across Indiana, including print, radio and newspaper pieces on WIBC and WFYI, the [Indianapolis Business Journal](#) and [Inside Indiana Business](#). Eli Lilly and Co. also shared the news on the [LillyPad blog](#) and Dr. Shekhar penned an op-ed for the [IIB Life Sciences INdiana newsletter](#).

Story by Kevin Fryling

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SpeechVive completes funding to move speech aid for Parkinson's patients to the public

July 8, 2014

SpeechVive Inc., a company launched based on technology developed by an investigator who received early funding from the Indiana CTSI, recently announced the completion of nearly \$700,000 in funding to move a speech aid innovation for people with Parkinson's disease to the public.

Ambassador Enterprises, an Indiana-based for-profit philanthropic equity investment firm, is providing Series A funding to support the U.S. sales launch of the [SpeechVive](#) device. The technology is a behind-the-ear smart device that helps people with Parkinson's disease speak more loudly and communicate more effectively.

"Based on the market research we have conducted and the queries we have received from health care professionals and individuals, there is a strong need for a product like SpeechVive," said Steve Mogensen, president and CEO of SpeechVive. "Our plan is to launch the sales of the SpeechVive in the U.S. during the second quarter of this year."

The technology was developed by Jessica Huber, Ph.D., associate professor of speech, Language and Hearing Sciences at Purdue University. The focus of Dr. Huber's research is the development and testing of behavioral treatments to improve communication and quality of life in older adults and people with degenerative motor diseases.

In 2010, Dr. Huber [received \\$10,000 from the Indiana CTSI Project Development Team program](#) to create an advanced prototype of the device in collaboration with Purdue biomedical engineers. The project later attracted about \$2.25 million in research funding from the National Institutes of Health and \$1 million for product development from a program administered through the Purdue Research Foundation.

SpeechVive reduces the speech impairments associated with Parkinson's disease, which causes people with the disease to speak in a hushed, whispery voice, have mumbled speech and commonly impacts their ability to communicate effectively.

"The clinical data we have collected over the past four years demonstrates that SpeechVive is effective in 90 percent of the people using the device," Dr. Huber said. "I am proud of the improvements in communication and quality of life demonstrated in our clinical studies of the SpeechVive. I look forward to seeing the device on the market so that more people with Parkinson's disease will have access to it."

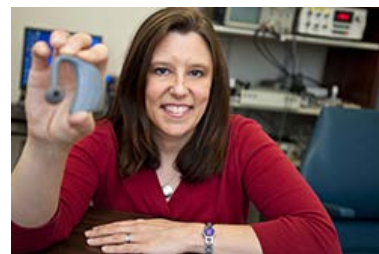
More than 1.5 million people in the U.S. are diagnosed with Parkinson's disease, and it is one of the most common degenerative neurological diseases. About 89 percent of those with Parkinson's disease have voice-related change, or affecting how loudly they speak, and about at least 45 percent have speech-related change, or affecting how clearly they speak."

"Ambassador Enterprises is deeply committed to developing healthy lives, healthy communities and healthy futures," said Brad Miller of Ambassador Enterprises. "Since SpeechVive is a technology that can improve the overall quality of life for people, it is exactly the type of innovation we wish to invest in and support."

Additional start-up funds provided to SpeechVive include \$18,900 from the Regenstrief Institute to investigate potential integration into the health care system.

About Ambassador Enterprises, LLC

Based in Fort Wayne, Ind., Ambassador Enterprises is a for-profit,



Jessica Huber, an associate professor of speech, language and hearing sciences at Purdue, has developed a new technology, called SpeechVive, which helps Parkinson's disease patients overcome the tendency to speak too quietly. (Purdue University photo/Andrew Hancock)

philanthropic, equity firm investing in leaders and their organizations, seeking partners who advance human welfare and provide financial returns. The firm invests in individuals, organizations and companies that share their commitment to producing economic, cultural and eternal returns. Learn more about the firm at <http://www.ambassador-enterprises.com>

About SpeechVive

SpeechVive is a Lafayette, Ind.-based corporation formed in 2011. The company is dedicated to improving the quality of life for individuals with speech problems due to Parkinson's and other diseases by enabling people to speak more loudly and communicate more effectively with their loved ones. More information is available at <http://www.speechvive.com>

Story by Cynthia Sequin

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IU School of Medicine, IU Health linking systems to advance clinical research

July 8, 2014

The Indiana Clinical and Translational Science Institute, in collaboration with Indiana University and Indiana University Health, is rolling out a new system to improve patient safety and increase the effectiveness of clinical research across the state's largest academic research and health care systems.

The Indiana CTSI Translational Informatics Program and the Clinical Implementation and Education Division of Information Services at IU Health are working to connect the separate electronic systems that manage and execute clinical research at the academic and hospital level as part of an effort to accelerate the rate that new academic research discoveries reach patients in need.

The [Strategic Research Initiative](#), a joint venture of the IU School of Medicine and IU Health, is contributing \$750,000 to the project.

"The ability to communicate smoothly and efficiently between the clinical research being conducted at IU and the clinical care being provided at IUH is critical to rapidly translating new discoveries into patient care," said Anantha Shekhar, M.D., Ph.D., director of the Indiana CTSI and associate vice president for university clinical affairs at IU. "Through connecting the systems that manage clinical trial data across the IU School of Medicine and IU Health, we're not only strengthening the safety of patients enrolled in these studies but also increasing the success rate of clinical research. These changes will help both medical researchers trying to locate new patients eligible to participate in research and patients trying to find open studies in which they want to enroll."

A National Institutes of Health-funded collaboration among IU, Purdue and Notre Dame, the Indiana CTSI is responsible for overseeing all aspects of the clinical research process at these institutions, including the IU School of Medicine. There are currently about [1,025 active clinical trials seeking volunteers](#) across the system, with the majority at the IU School of Medicine.

Dr. Shekhar also serves as the associate dean for translational research and Raymond E. Houk Professor of Psychiatry at the IU School of Medicine.

OnCore, a computer-based system to manage clinical trials being implemented across IU, Purdue and Notre Dame by the Indiana CTSI, is used by researchers to safely and effectively carry out clinical research on a wide range of studies, including the first uses of potential new drug compounds in human subjects. PowerTrials, a part of the patient electronic medical record managed by IU Health, allows doctors to execute clinical research within the hospital environment, including recording patient interactions, tracking symptoms and ordering tests.

The linked system is rolling out in three phases at two clinical pilot sites: The Krannert Institute of Cardiology and the Methodist Research Institute.

- The first phase, launched June 3, enables any caregiver treating patients enrolled in a clinical trial to be informed at the point of care via electronic medical record about their patient's participation in a research study.
- The second phase, expected in September, will integrate screening rules and research protocols into the system, making the system smart and searchable so researchers can find patients eligible for their research studies and patients to find trials in which they are eligible to volunteer.
- The third phase, expected next year, will standardize processes so physicians can deliver high quality care without spending time on details such as whether a patients' insurance or the company sponsoring their clinical trial is responsible for the cost of a test.



If a patient is enrolled in a clinical research study, a notification will appear on the banner bar of their electronic medical record, as shown. ([click to enlarge](#))

The successful completion of the first phase guarantees that bedside nurses, physicians and other key medical staff can easily see whether a patient is enrolled in a clinical trial via a prominent banner bar at the top of their electronic medical chart, regardless of whether they've previously interacted with the patient or the patient's primary physician.

"This is first and foremost about patient safety because knowing that a patient is receiving experimental therapy is a crucial piece of information for a physician," said Richard Kovacs, M.D., Q. E. and Sally Russell Professor of Cardiology and professor of clinical medicine at the IU School of Medicine, who previously served as founding director of the Indiana CTSI Office for Research Recruitment and is a cardiologist at the Krannert Institute. "With paper charts, a doctor used to know if a patient was enrolled in a clinical trial because a study coordinator would literally put a sticker on the chart showing you that you had to handle that patient a little bit differently."

For example, a physician may choose to alter their normal course of treatment to avoid a dangerous drug interaction after discovering their patient is undergoing a non-standard treatment due to enrollment in a clinical trial. Doctors using the linked systems can also access more specific information about the studies in which a patient is enrolled -- as well as contact information for the physician-scientist running a trial in case they need to reach out in person.

Anyone at the IU School of Medicine or IU Health involved in carrying out the clinical trial, including the research scientist conducting the study or a study coordinator, will also receive an automatic notification if their patient is treated at an IU Health hospital.

"Whenever you've got a patient experiencing an unexpected registration event, such as an ER visit, that's something you should know about," said Michael Rittenhouse, clinical director for information services at IU Health, who is leading up the system integration at the hospital in collaboration with the Indiana CTSI. "Everyone involved in caring for a patient on a clinical trial can now readily identify vital information about the study, what the patient is getting as part of the study and who is in charge of the study so they can correspond with the clinical researchers about treatment. We want our doctors to have that knowledge."

While the first phase of the rollout will increase individual patient safety, Dr. Kovacs said the next phase will strengthen health care at the system level because the ability to find eligible clinical trial participants with the "click of a button" will increase the overall success rate of clinical trials at the IU School of Medicine.

Currently, it's estimated that 80 percent of clinical trials are delayed due to inadequate enrollment, with a total of 15 to 20 percent never enrolling a single participant.

"The new system can be used so either an attending physician is notified that their patient is eligible for a trial or so a physician-researcher can search for eligible patients and then reach out to the patient's doctor within the system," he said. "You won't even need to pick up the phone; a request for permission to approach a patient about enrollment in your trial can take place within the routine flow of care."

The next phase of the project will launch at the Krannert Institute and Methodist Research Institute in September, with rollout at additional academic divisions and clinics at the IU School of Medicine and IU Health expected over the coming months and years.

Story by Kevin Fryling

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Indiana CTSI joins new clinical research network

July 8, 2014

The Indiana Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute has joined a new consortium designed to increase enrollment in clinical trials through access to patients at multiple Midwest academic medical centers with institutes funded by the National Institutes of Health's Clinical and Translational Sciences Award.

The [Midwest Area Research Consortium for Health](#), or MARCH, aims to facilitate multi-site research studies and cross-CTSA collaborations to promote efficient, effective and demographically-balanced research.

Anantha Shekhar, M.D., Ph.D., director of the Indiana CTSI, and Brenda Hudson, program manager for the Indiana CTSI Office of Research Recruitment, joined five other CTSA consortium members for the second annual MARCH advisory committee on Feb. 11 and 12 at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

The lead member of MARCH is the [Institute for Clinical and Translational Research](#) at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Other members are:

- [Mayo Clinic Center for Clinical and Translational Science](#)
- [Clinical and Translational Science Institute of Southeast Wisconsin \(Medical College of Wisconsin\)](#)
- [The Ohio State University Clinical and Translational Science](#)
- [University of Minnesota Clinical and Translational Science Institute](#)

Rather than focus on a particular disease or medical condition, MARCH will strive to advance translational research projects on a range of topics.

"A part of this partnership is about recruitment; it will let us get access to patients from different backgrounds since we're representing many regions across the Midwest," said Hudson, who serves as MARCH representative for the Indiana CTSI. "You've got urban populations, rural populations, different races and ethnicities; they're all receiving treatment at hospitals affiliated with these institutions."

The consortium is designed benefit researchers conducting studies that require large numbers of patients, especially patients with rare diseases or multi-disciplinary teams.

The ability to access patient populations from a wide range of backgrounds is a key factor in many clinical research studies since environmental influences and genetic histories can significantly impact how patients react to new treatments and therapies, Hudson said. The consortium also aims to foster new collaborations by easing the ability of experts on different topics to collaborate through MARCH.

"Individuals may also increase their chances of getting additional outside funding when they can say they're a part of this network since they're most likely to be able to draw enough patients for their research to go forward," she added.

Another driver behind the creation of MARCH is the consortium's ability to provide the infrastructure required to facilitate cross-institutional clinical research studies. MARCH established subcommittees on topics such as operations, fiscal and research coordination, as well as a regulatory task force.

Topics recently explored include whether a new IU-developed investigational drug compound could be used to implement the trial across the MARCH system. The consortium is also currently working to develop cross-institutional Internal Review Board and budgetary agreements in order to reduce the amount of time required to implement trials consortium-wide.



Anantha Shekhar, M.D., Ph.D., at the MARCH kick-off meeting Jan. 23-24 at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.



Brenda Hudson, center, and Dr. Shekhar, left, at the MARCH kick-off meeting.



Voting members of the MARCH advisory committee include (back row left to right) Michael Joyner, M.D. (Mayo Clinic), Marc Drezner, M.D. (UW-Madison), Bruce Blazar, M.D. University of Minnesota), (front row left to right) Rebecca Jackson, M.D. (Ohio State University), and Dr. Shekhar (Indiana CTSI). Not Pictured: Reza Shaker, M.D. (Medical College of Wisconsin).

"The formation of MARCH is a seminal event," said Marc Drezner, M.D., executive director and principal investigator of the University of Wisconsin Institute for Clinical and Translational Research. "Our new consortium represents an amazing opportunity for cutting edge research to be performed across a wide range of different states, multi-cultural cities and rural areas. The research strengths of each institution offer the research efficiency and expertise needed in today's world to both investigator-initiated NIH studies and industry."

Dr. Drezner serves as the first chair of the MARCH Advisory Committee, a two-year term. The CTSA principal investigators, including Dr. Shekhar, are the voting members of the committee, which is tasked with review and approval of protocols to utilize MARCH and financial oversight.

An essential eligibility requirement for usage of MARCH is that at least two sites must participate in a study. No studies from universities affiliated with the Indiana CTSI have yet launched through the MARCH system, but proposals are under consideration and organizers expect new projects to come online in the coming months.

If you're a researcher at IU, Purdue or Notre Dame who wants to learn more about MARCH, or are interested in getting involved in the consortium, please contact Brenda Hudson at brlhudso@iu.edu or 317-278-0913.

Story by Kevin Fryling

Photos by Todd Brown

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Summer lab experience a 'perfect fit' for high school student

July 8, 2014

Working in a bone lab for the summer with a group of Indiana University School of Medicine researchers was an opportunity one Indiana high school student could not pass up.

Aryaman Gupta, a junior at Carmel High School, is a 2014 Indianapolis Project Seed intern with Matthew Allen, Ph.D., associate professor of anatomy and cell biology and Jason Organ, Ph.D., assistant professor of anatomy and cell biology.

[Indianapolis Project Seed](#) is a not-for-profit organization that provides opportunities for Indiana high school students to work on college-level laboratory research. The program, which has placed over 700 interns in research labs since 1973, including many who've gone on to earn undergraduate grants and scholarships to study, is supported in part by the Indiana CTSI.

The Indiana CTSI also provides internship opportunities to IUPUI undergraduate students through the [IUPUI Center for Research and Learning](#) and IU School of Medicine medical students through the IUSM [Student Research Program in Academic Medicine \(SRPinAM\)](#). Mohammed Aref, a SRPinAM student in the Dr. Allen's lab, is working closely with Aryaman on his summer project.

"I had a lot of family friends who had done Indianapolis Project Seed and the fact that it gives you an experience at such a young age--there's not many high school students around the nation who can work in a lab when they're 16 and get to do all of the stuff I'm getting to do this summer," said Gupta. "The fact that this opportunity was available I just had to grab it--you can't say no to it."

Drs. Allen and Organ share a lab on the IU School of Medicine in Indianapolis where they conduct research on the properties of bone, muscle and cartilage.

"We study the musculoskeletal system, how it adapts to different interventions and how it is changed both positively and negatively by pharmaceutical agents," Dr. Allen said.

Dr. Allen said Gupta and other members of the lab are spending the summer researching cartilage and its role in diseases such as osteoarthritis. The team is looking at different ways to strengthen cartilage and make it more resistant to wear.

"Aryaman and Mohammed are working with a prototype device designed to dynamically assess mechanical properties of cartilage. They're really some of the first people in the world to be working with this device," Dr. Allen said. "Ultimately, by the end of the summer, they're going to determine the usefulness of the device for our labs research and also test whether drugs that we know positively affect bone have similar positive mechanical effects on cartilage."

Drs. Allen and Organ added that Project Seed is a great way to introduce high school students to careers in the health care fields. Along with Gupta, Paige Price, a senior at Brownsburg High School, is spending the summer interning in the lab as part of Project Seed.

"I hope they get a sense of whether they want to do this as a career or not; that's sort of the ultimate goal. If they experience this at a young age and they don't like it -- that's also good to know right away." Dr. Organ said.

But for Gupta at least, a career in research feels like a perfect fit.

"One of the things I had discovered I enjoyed was biomedical engineering (BME), and when I was interviewing with this lab (they) told me that many of



Left to right: Mohammed Aref, a second-year medical student at the IU School of Medicine; Jason Organ, Ph.D.; Matthew Allen, Ph.D.; and Aryaman Gupta, a student at Carmel High School and summer intern in the lab of Drs. Organ and Allen. Gupta's internship in Dr. Organ and Allen's lab through Indianapolis Project Seed is supported by the Indiana CTSI.



Dr. Allen, left, and Aref, far right, instruct Aryaman Gupta on how to assess the mechanical properties of a sample of bone cartilage.

the students were BME students and it's a very biomechanically-focused lab -- it matched exactly with my future goals."

He added that one of the most important things he has learned from his experience so far is not specific lab technique or test result, but a virtue.

"I learned how to be patient -- you can't do science without having patience."

Gutpa has also come to realize that his future career path will be challenging, not only due to the subject matter but the range of possibilities.

"It's just opened my eyes," he said. "You can do biomechanical engineering, but the avenues that you can take after that are just so expansive, and there are so many opportunities."

Dr. Organ said this is his first year working with Project SEED as a mentor and has been pleased to see the interns integrate positively into the lab environment. Aref, who is also new to working with students from Project SEED, said his work with Gupta has been going very well too.

The internship has been a fun experience for his whole team as well, Dr. Allen added, noting Gutpa has picked up at least one unusual skill.

"Have you also learned that you can multi-task testing cartilage and watching the World Cup at the same time? he joked with Gupta.

"Yes, I've really become good at that," Gupta laughed. "The World Cup has brought the whole lab together."

Story by Lauren Scheid

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Access Technology Program Updates -- July 2014

July 8, 2014

Access Technology Program News

Pathway Analysis Tools available at reduced rates

The software tools below are commonly used for high throughput data such as proteomics and gene expression via microarrays or RNA sequencing:

MetaCore and MetaDrug: A free webinar from Thomson Reuters Target Prioritization through Gene Expression Analysis held June 16 was attended by nine investigators. The Thomson Reuters pathway analysis software MetaCore and MetaDrug are available at a [markedly reduced rate compared to purchase of a single user license](#). This offer made possible by the CTSI Access Technology Program (ATP) is open to investigators at all Indiana CTSI institutions.

Ingenuity Pathway Analysis: The Center for Medical Genomics has a shared user license for Ingenuity Pathway Analysis (IPA) and offers sub-licenses at rates much less than a single user license to Indiana University Investigators at any IU campus. To register for a free trial of Ingenuity, contact Ingenuity at <http://www.ingenuity.com/products/ipa/try-ipa-for-free>. Contact Jeanette McClintick, Ph.D., of the Center for Medical Genomics, at jnmccclin@iupui.edu for more information on sub-licensing. If enough non-IU investigators are interested in licensing IPA, ATP may be able to negotiate an Indiana CTSI-wide license. If interested, contact McClintick (jnmccclin@iupui.edu).

Core News

The Indiana University Electron Microscopy Center (IU EMC) had an informative workshop in May on Correlative Light and Electron Microscopy, including High Pressure Freezing (HPF) and Freeze Substitution (FS). There were talks on May 14 by David Morgan (IU EMC), Chris Gilpin (Purdue), Vamseedhar Rayaprolu (IU Biology), Roger Innes (IU Biology), Kent McDonald (UC Berkeley), and Derron Bishop (IUSM/Ball State). It was followed by a two-day, hands-on practical tutorial from May 15 to 16 presented by Kent McDonald, an experienced researcher with HPF and FS. The tutorial emphasized freezing techniques (cryoprotectant diversity) and the "Super Quick FS" technique, which speeds up substitution from the three to six days to a few hours. Participants also worked with different resin mounting techniques. Anyone who would like to learn and perform HPF and FS from IU EMC, which has further developed its expertise with HPF/FS, should contact Gavin Murphy at the IU EMC at gamurphy@indiana.edu.

Core Pilot Grants and Core equipment

The Spring Core Pilot Grants and IU Core Equipment grants have been reviewed and sent to the CTSI executive committee for review and awards.

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Indiana CTSI Opportunities — July 2014

July 8, 2014

Several Indiana CTSI-funded programs are accepting applications. They are:

Center of Excellence in Cardiovascular Research -- applications due July 28, 2014

The Center of Excellence in Cardiovascular Research -- a joint initiative with the IU School of Medicine, Indiana University Health and the Indiana Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute -- is seeking grant applications for clinical and translational cardiovascular research projects.

The maximum one-year grant funding request is \$60,000 and a project must have a start date of Oct. 1 or later. The requested project period may not exceed one year.

Applicants should have an IU faculty appointment or demonstrate a close link to the IUH cardiovascular programs. IUH physicians with affiliate faculty appointment are also eligible to apply. Faculty members of the Indiana CTSI partner institutions of IU, Purdue or Notre Dame are also eligible to apply if the proposed project is linked to IUH facilities.

The participation of IUH cardiovascular service line physicians and/or IUSM faculty members is highly desirable.

Proposed research projects supported by this initiative must be relevant to cardiovascular diseases and provide information that will enhance an application for a larger subsequently-funded research activity.

A letter of intent is due **Wednesday, July 9** to admin@indianactsi.org. Completed applications are due **5 p.m. Monday, July 28**. Application forms and specific [application information is available at Indiana CTSI's website](#).

For more application information, or to apply, visit the Indiana CTSI's [grants portal](#) and enter your institutional username and password. Applications instructions are located under "Center of Excellence in Cardiovascular Research: Research Grants - 2014.07."

For more information, contact Anne Nguyen at 317-278-2874 or info@indianactsi.org.

Fairbanks Institute for Healthy Communities -- applications due Aug. 15

The Fairbanks Institute for Healthy Communities and the Indiana Clinical and Translational Science Institute requests submissions of project applications for research use of bio-specimen with longitudinal electronic medical record data.

The Fairbanks Institute, a non-profit organization, has created an extensively annotated bio-specimen repository for hypothesis-driven research. These biological samples are linked with longitudinal clinical and disease-specific health records information drawn from the Indiana Network for Patient Care (INPC), a state-wide electronic clinical data repository. The INPC link has enabled the Fairbanks Institute to connect bio-specimens drawn at a point in time or over time with active patient medical record information thereby creating a longitudinal view of the subject's disease progression, interventions, and outcomes. Fairbanks Institute's collection consists of samples from two disease based study collections which are the coronary artery disease (CAD) collection and the type II diabetes (T2D) collection.

Samples will be provided free of charge to qualified investigators. This application is designed to promote research studies using the Fairbanks Institute's samples. Only bio-specimen will be made available. Requests for other resources are not permissible.

Applications are due **5 p.m. Friday, Aug. 15**. Application forms and specific [application information is available at Indiana CTSI's website](#). The submission must include a current maximum four-page NIH biosketch.

For more information, or to apply, visit the Indiana CTSI's [grants portal](#) and enter your institutional username and password. Applications instructions are located under "Fairbanks Institute: Biological Samples with Longitudinal EHR Data for Research - 2014.08 (FIB)."

Questions to Anne Nguyen at info@indianactsi.org or Brooke Patz bpatz@iu.edu.

Strategic Pharma-Academic Research Consortium -- applications due Sept. 23, 2014

Researchers working in the area of autoimmune disease are sought for a new opportunity from the Strategic Pharma-Academic Research Consortium for Translational Medicine.

Established by the Indiana Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute, SPARC consists of partners from both academia and the pharmaceutical industry. Inaugural members are Indiana CTSI, The Ohio State University, Northwestern University, Washington University in St. Louis, Eli Lilly and Co. and Takeda Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

This award will provide up to \$400,000 over two years. Applicants must have at least two project-specific personnel from different participating academic member institutions.

Complete guidelines and application forms are available through the [Indiana CTSI grants portal](#). Applicants may log in using their

institutional username and password. (Applicant at eligible institutions who are not listed on the drop down menu may log in by [creating an account with the Indiana CTSI](#) using the instructions to the right of the login area.) Materials are accessible under "Strategic Pharma-Academic Research Consortium Awards Program - 2014.08 (SPARC)."

The deadline to submit a letter of intent is **Tuesday, July 29**. Complete proposals for selected applicants are due **Tuesday, Sept. 23**. The funding start date for successful applicants will be no earlier than Wednesday, Oct. 1, 2014.

For more information, contact Anne Nguyen at annnguye@iu.edu.

Translational Science Program

The IU Translational Science Program, supported by the Indiana CTSI, provides educational opportunities to students and trainees, such as post-doctoral and clinical fellows, with an interest in more formal training in translational research.

The program welcomes pre-docs, current medical students, fellows, faculty, physicians, nurses, dentists, basic scientists, clinical scientists and others with career interests in translational research.

Students and trainees may select one of the following options to best suit their needs:

- Enroll in the Master's Degree in Translational Science program
- Enroll in the Graduate Certificate in Translational Science program
- Obtain a Ph.D. Minor in Translational Science
- Register for individual courses
 - Tools & Techniques in Translational Research (GRAD-G667 in the fall)
 - Quantitative Aspects in Translational Research (GRAD-G668 in the spring).

For more information, contact Carrie Hansel at cahansel@iu.edu or 317-278-5842.

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Contact:
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On the Horizon — July 2014

Sixth Annual Indiana CTSI Meeting -- Sept. 26

Mark your calendars! The sixth annual meeting of the Indiana Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute will be **Friday, Sept. 26**, at the [Hine Hall Auditorium](#) on the IUPUI campus in Indianapolis.

This free event is an opportunity to learn more about the Indiana CTSI, participate in poster presentations and breakout sessions, and meet new colleagues and collaborators. Anyone who wants to learn more about the Indiana CTSI is welcome.

Additional information will be posted to the Indiana CTSI HUB. Questions to info@indianactsi.org.

Submit your events!

Other events will be listed as they are scheduled on the Indiana CTSI's newly upgraded [events calendar](#). To submit an event, email date, time, location, description and contact information to info@indianactsi.org.

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