February 2021

FROM THE CANCER CONSORTIUM

2021 Consortium Pilot Award Competition
Funds are available from the Fred Hutch/University of Washington Cancer Consortium’s Cancer Center Support Grant (CCSG) to Consortium members at all levels of faculty rank to propel a novel area of research. Project topics must be focused on cancer etiology, prevention, diagnosis, and/or treatment.

Application Due date: Friday, March 5, 2021.

2021 New Investigator Support
Funds are available from CCSG to provide developmental support to new or junior faculty who are establishing their research within the Consortium.

Competition opening in April 2021
Follow this link for information about these funding opportunities.

Cancer Basic Biology Program Seminar Series
The Cancer Basic Biology Program will host a bi-monthly series to introduce new Consortium Cancer Basic Biology program members, and showcase research interests and projects being conducted by members across all CCSG Programs and Consortium institutions. Presentations will focus on larger research questions, followed by discussion centered on new ideas, growth areas and opportunities to collaborate. The seminar schedule can be found here.

All seminars will be held virtually on Zoom.
Zoom link: Cancer Basic Biology Seminars
Passcode: CBB2021
When: Second and Fourth Mondays of every month beginning on March 8, 2021.
Time: 4 to 5 p.m.

FROM THE OFFICE OF COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT

Catchment Area Health Pilot Awards
The Cancer Consortium’s Office of Community Outreach & Engagement partnered with the
that engages basic scientists and fosters the participation of community partners. The following three pilot projects, addressing basic research on cancers relevant to the Consortium's 13-county catchment area, have been funded:

- Neelendu Dey, MD- Advancing equity in colorectal cancer screening through microbiome profiling.
- David Hockenbery, MD- Links between dysbiotic gut microbiomes and obesity-associated colorectal carcinomas.
- Manoj Menon, MD- Pilot Study of an Early Genomic Profiling Program in Patients with Newly Diagnosed Advanced Stage Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer (NSCLC)

**Cancer Health Equity NOW Podcast**

As the Office of Community Outreach & Engagement has pivoted from in person to virtual outreach and education, they have launched a monthly podcast series entitled, “Cancer Health Equity NOW”, hosted by Community Health Educator Danté Morehead. Since the last newsletter, they have released three new episodes.

- December: The Role of Health Education during COVID-19 (Featuring health educators Lisa Scheib and Katarina Lauderback from SCCA, and Dillon van Rensburg from the Cancer Consortium)
- January: Queering the Cancer World (Featuring Genya Shimkin, CEO and creator of the Q Card Project and Community Health Educator Liszet Bigelow from the Cancer Consortium)
- February: What does Anti-Racism mean in research & health equity? And what does it look like? (Featuring Michele Andrasik, PhD, Paul Buckley, PhD from Fred Hutch, and Wendy Barrington PhD, MPH from University of Washington)

Check out these and other past episodes [here](#).
FROM THE CONSORTIUM SHARED RESOURCES

**Staffing Updates**

**Antibody Technology, Ben Hoffstrom Departure**

Ben Hoffstrom, PhD, long time Antibody Core Director, left the Hutch on Feb 1, 2021 to pursue additional opportunities in antibody and drug discovery. He is actively participating in the search for his replacement and providing consulting services to the Antibody core to maintain all ongoing and future projects until his replacement is identified. His many years of experience and considerable expertise in the antibody field will be missed at the Hutch, but we are confident that the team and lab Ben created will continue to thrive under new leadership.

**Therapeutic Products Program, James Adams Departure**

James Adams, MBA, Senior Director of the Clinical Resources and Therapeutic Products Program (TPP), accepted a position at Sonoma Biotherapeutics. His last day at Fred Hutch was January 15. We want to thank James for his leadership in building a strong team and helping so many clinical trials in his time with us at the Fred Hutch. He has made significant contributions to our mission, and we will all miss him.

In the interim, TPP will be managed by the TPP leadership team, and Marion Dorer, PhD, Vice President, Interdisciplinary Science Administration, will provide direct leadership for this group. If you have any questions or requests regarding TPP, please contact Mark Rice, PhD, Biologics Processing Facility Director.

**Comparative Medicine Small Animal Imaging/Translational Bioimaging shared resource Welcomes Elena Carlson**

Small Animal Imaging/Translational Bioimaging shared resource welcomes Elena Carlson, MS, as an Imaging Specialist. Elena comes to the Fred Hutch from the University of Washington after completing her Master of Science in Analytical Chemistry. She brings expertise in mouse handling and surgical techniques for multiphoton fluorescence microscopy of live mice and ex-vivo label-free spectroscopic imaging. She has extensive knowledge in data analytics and image processing. Elena's experience will greatly augment our growing animal imaging program and provide additional support and resources to our users as we roll out new technologies.

**Comparative Medicine shared resource**

Comparative Medicine Small Animal Imaging/Translational Bioimaging shared resource: New Equipment Roll-out

Small Animal Imaging/Translational Bioimaging shared resource is anticipating the roll-out of several new pieces of equipment in February and March. These include an EchoMRI system for rodents. This in vivo system can measure total body fat, lean mass and free water content in live, non-anesthetized animals in 0.5-3.2 minutes. This system will be located in the Day Campus Animal Facility. Additionally, a Quantum GX2 microCT imaging unit will be placed in the Steam Plant Animal Facility. The GX2 permits high-speed, low-radiation dose in-vivo longitudinal scanning of rodents and high resolution ex-vivo scanning of samples. Easy co-registration of images between the microCT and IVIS units will permit anatomical localization of functional...
optical signaling. As with all imaging equipment housed within Comparative Medicine, both machines are available to users whose animals are housed in either the Steam Plant or the Day Campus. No-charge transportation of mice between the facilities for imaging can be arranged through small animal imaging personnel. For further information please contact Brianna Wrightson or Elena Carlson.

**Genomics & Bioinformatics shared resource**

The Genomics shared resource recently reduced pricing for several NovaSeq 6000 flow cells, resulting from streamlined reagent manufacturing and reduction of Illumina kit costs. Some run costs have reduced by as much as 27%.

Our recently added NextSeq 2000 now enables high output mode which generates up to 1.1 billion read pairs with 50, 100, 200, and 300 cycle sequencing kits available. In addition to the increased output, custom sequencing primers can now be incorporated into both P2 and P3 output modes. Improved instrument efficiency and reagent packaging provide a ~25% cost reduction when compared to HiSeq 2500 Rapid runs.

Genomics continues to offer services for the full suite of 10x Genomics single-cell assays, including the new Single Cell Multiome ATAC + Gene Expression option which can measure gene expression and open chromatin simultaneously from the same cell, across thousands of cells.

The Bioinformatics resource is available for data analysis and consulting to help Cancer Consortium users make optimal use of this high-throughput instrumentation. Our group consists of 3 dedicated bioinformaticians with a wide range of expertise in standard applications such as RNA-seq, whole exome sequencing, ChIP-seq, CUT&RUN, CRISPR screens, and various single-cell analyses. We also provide consultation and bioinformatics support for more novel and customized workflows.

Finally, the Genomics and Bioinformatics website has been redesigned. Check out our site to find more information on how we can help support your science. For questions or more information, please contact the Genomics Resource and the Bioinformatics Resource.

**Cellular Imaging shared resource**

The Cellular Imaging shared resource is hiring a service-oriented specialist to join our current team to aid in the operation of the microscopy core. This provides an exciting opportunity to get acquainted with diverse imaging techniques, in a multidisciplinary environment with researchers. Link to the job posting is here.

**Cellular Imaging core Workstation Computers**

The Cellular Imaging shared resource has installed two high-end workstation computers for quantitative image analysis. They are equipped with cutting edge technologies to handle demanding large image files. Please come by the facility on the Hutch campus in Room DE-512 to discuss with staff.

**Cellular Imaging core Reagent Repository**

The Cellular Imaging shared resource has created a reagent repository service. Given that there are some advanced microscopy on campus such as super-resolution STED, Cellular Imaging
has procured some secondary antibodies and dyes in the repository for researchers to purchase in small aliquots for pilot or infrequent experiments. Please come by the facility on the Hutch campus in Room DE-512 to discuss with staff.

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**FROM THE INTEGRATED RESEARCH CENTERS**

**Save the Date for these Seminars and Retreats**

- TDS will kick off their 2021 Seminar Series on February 11th, 2-3pm. Wei Sun, PhD, will present on Individual-level Differential Expression Analysis for Single Cell RNA-seq data, along with Gavin Ha, PhD, who will discuss Molecular Profiling of Small-Cell Lung Cancer using Circulating Tumor DNA. This seminar is part of the 2021 TDS/Cancer Consortium Retreat Series.
- TDS Seminar Series is proud to present Fred Hutch Staff Scientist, Oscar Murillo. Please join us on March 4th, 2-3pm, for a seminar on Proteogenomic analysis of human ovarian tumors reveals potential mechanisms of platinum resistance.
- TDS will host David McCandlish, PhD from Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory for a virtual seminar on April 1st, 10-11am. Dr. McCandlish will present on Modeling higher-order genetic interactions.

Miss a seminar? Past seminars can be viewed again by using the links in the corresponding IIRC, TDS, and PAM Teams channels. For any questions related to past or future seminars, please reach out to Becca Jourdan at rjourdan@fredhutch.org.

- The Immunotherapy IRC and the Consortium’s Cancer Immunology Program are pleased to announce the 2021 Virtual Immunotherapy IRC & Consortium Retreat will take place via Zoom on **April 19, 2021**. Save the date and stay tuned for an official agenda coming soon.
- The TDS IRC and the Consortium’s Cancer Biostatistics & Computational Biology Program are pleased to announce that the 2021 Virtual TDS IRC & Consortium Retreat will take place this spring. We will host a full series of seminars and have a virtual event on **April 26, 2021**.
- The PAM IRC and the Consortium’s Pathogen Associated Malignancies Program are pleased to announce the 2021 Virtual PAM Retreat will take place via Zoom on **May 12, 2021**. This retreat will feature a full program of events, including a virtual happy hour!

**IRC Funding Opportunities**

The PAM IRC and Microbiome Research Initiative are offering Pilot Awards to support new research projects and collaborations focused on the study of the microbiome as it relates to cancer initiation, progression, response to therapy or other relevant areas. Membership in the PAM IRC is not required and faculty from all areas are encouraged to apply. More information regarding eligibility and application requirements can be found [here](#) on CenterNet**.

The IIRC is offering Funding for Early Stage Clinical Trials to accelerate development and launch...
The 2021 New Collaborations in Translational Data Science Award is now open for applications. With this early stage pilot funding, investigators across the Hutch are encouraged to identify a complex data problem that requires significant computational expertise and interdisciplinary collaboration. More information regarding eligibility and application requirements can be found here on CenterNet**.

** If you do not have access to CenterNet and are interested in any of the Funding Opportunities listed here, please contact Becca Jourdan.

FROM THE INSTITUTE OF TRANSLATIONAL HEALTH SCIENCES

In partnership with ITHS, Washington Entrepreneurial Research Evaluation and Commercialization Hub (WE-REACH) is delighted to support investigators interested in the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute’s Catalyze Program. WE-REACH is a qualified accelerator partner, which is required for these funding opportunities. Detailed descriptions of grant opportunities may be found here.

Tong Sun, Executive Director and Assistant Dean, Translational Health Sciences, is happy to meet with anyone who is interested.

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