



UPSTATE

MEDICAL UNIVERSITY

RESEARCH FORUM

Quarterly Issue 41: The Office of Research Administration Spring 2011

New Faculty Bring a Wealth of Research to Upstate

**Ask
ReGELT.....**

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Upstate welcomes a number of new faculty each year, many of whom bring with them well-funded innovative research programs. Steven Hanes, PhD, came to Upstate in January of this year as a Professor of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology after 17 years at the Wadsworth Institute, the research arm of the NYS Department of Health. Dr. Hanes research, supported by NIH and NSF, studies how genes are switched on at the right time and place during development of the embryo and during cell division. Dr. Hanes' lab uses experimental model organisms such as baker's yeast and fruit flies, because these organisms share the same basic enzymatic machinery as humans, but are easier to study. Here they are determining how genes are transcribed into RNA and then protein from their DNA templates and, mechanistically, how this transcription process starts and ends at precise locations along the chromosome. Although this science is foundational, Dr. Hanes expects that it will contribute most directly to the Cancer, Infectious Diseases, and Disorders of the Nervous System pillars. For example, the human counterpart of a yeast enzyme being studied by Dr. Hanes has been associated with several types of cancer and with neurodegenerative diseases. Drugs discovered to inhibit this enzyme in humans could be useful in cancer or antifungal therapies. In another project, studying how homeobox genes specify the anterior-posterior body axis in the developing embryo could lead to a better understanding of what causes this process to go awry, and prevent consequences such as leukemia or birth defects.

Debashis Ghosh, MSc, PhD, came to Upstate recently from Roswell Park Cancer Institute. Supported by grants from NIH, Dr. Ghosh's lab studies the machinery that makes estrogen. By characterizing estrogen at the molecular level, his research is designed to identify how to turn estrogen off and on in order to develop better breast cancer drugs. In a companion study, Dr. Ghosh is using a similar approach with androgen to prevent prostate cancer, and well as treat this disease with minimal side effects.

Both Drs. Hanes and Ghosh chose Upstate because they found an institution that supports faculty, encourages research, and provides opportunities for growth. Dr. Hanes was especially attracted to the great morale in the Biochemistry and Molecular Biology Department and the understanding of the important role industry plays in furthering research and attracting high caliber students. Dr. Ghosh was honored to have the opportunity to join the Cancer Research Institute, the only one of its kind in New York State, and work alongside its director, Dr. Ziwei Huang, to move his bench discoveries to the bedside.

We welcome these and other new research faculty to Upstate and encourage them to become familiar with the services provided by the Research Administration Office. From finding funding to submitting on-time competitive extramural applications, to obtaining necessary compliance approvals, to administering sponsored research, Research Admin staff are available to assist faculty to grow their research portfolio. Check us out on the web at <http://www.upstate.edu/researchadmin/>

The VPR Corner....



Creating an Entrepreneurial Culture at Upstate

I came to Upstate about three years ago, first as a consultant and then as the VPR and Dean of the College of Graduate Studies. Very quickly I observed several things that needed my attention related to the subject of this VPR Corner. There had been very limited meaningful outreach between Upstate and Industry; there was a very low level of New Technology Disclosures (NTDs) coming from Upstate inventors, the CNY BRC bio-incubator progress was slow, and education of the entire Upstate community on entrepreneurship was almost non-existent. It was clear that we had much work to do in creating an entrepreneurial culture at Upstate.

The first step in creating a meaningful relationship between Upstate and Industry was my visiting many bio-industry companies, from Albany to Buffalo, with the help of Heather Erickson (President, MedTech). During these face to face meetings, we started the process of building relationships and letting these Industry leaders know that Upstate wanted to partner with them. This was expanded when Heather and I created an Upstate-Industry collaboration day where many of the industry representatives that I had met during my driving tour came to Upstate for the day. They met some Upstate faculty research leaders, spoke to us about the interests of their companies, and had the opportunity to engage our faculty in meaningful discussions.

It became clear to me that to carry the relationship building to the next level, we needed to recruit a person to Upstate with bio-industry experience. With the support of Steve Scheinman, Steve Brady, and Dave Smith we hired Cindy Dowd Greene as Associate VP for Industry Relations. Cindy had the perfect background for the job with many years of pharmaceutical industry experience. Since coming to Upstate, Cindy has created the "Conversations in Entrepreneurship" lecture series that has been wonderful. She has produced draft guidelines for starting new companies based on Upstate Technology. She has created several new partnerships between Upstate and Industry including Welch Allyn, Nonin, and others. And as will be discussed below she has begun the process of recruiting clients to the CNY BRC.

Three years ago, as a centralized campus, we were getting our Tech Transfer support from SUNY RF. NTDs went to Albany where they were evaluated and those deemed worthy were taken through the patent process. When I first came to Upstate our only involvement was when they sent us the bills from the patent attorneys. There was also very little royalty income coming back to Upstate. Clearly things had to change. I brought the SUNY RF Tech Transfer staff to campus. A new policy was established where new NTDs came to my office. We established an Upstate Patent Committee composed of faculty who themselves hold patents, Cindy Dowd Greene and myself to review all NTDs in terms of both their technical and scientific validity and their market value (most recently Scott Macfarlane has joined this committee), and to decide whether a new invention is worthy of patent protection. We also established an account, using previous royalty income, to pay for the approved patents. The result of these changes, and of beginning to educate our faculty and staff on patent protection and tech transfer, is a substantial increase in the number of NTDs submitted. Recently technology transfer at Upstate has progressed even further in the decentralization process, as will be discussed below.

Continued from previous page;

Three years ago the CNY BRC consisted of some architectural plans that had not yet progressed to a building, a board consisting of mainly people with academic backgrounds, and a poorly defined strategic plan. I was named the co-Chair of the CNY BRC Board, along with President Neil Murphy of ESF, and we have been able to make significant progress on many fronts. We have been able to complete the architectural planning and, with funding secured, begin building the CNY BRC which will be ready for occupancy in May 2012. We changed the bylaws for the CNY BRC to allow for six at-large members of the CNY BRC Board (from the previous three). As only two of the three prior slots had been occupied we were able to add four new Board members who are leaders in the areas of bio-industry, finance, and bio-incubators. Working with my friend Stephen Fluckiger, an attorney from Jones Day, we established legal documents and forms required to evaluate and bring on the future clients of the CNY BRC. Most recently, Cindy Dowd Greene has led the efforts to establish a list and contact information for potential clients of the CNY BRC, create the necessary marketing materials, build a new web site, and begin the process of recruiting. Cindy is leading the committee that is working on a new more robust strategic plan.

A major step in solidifying the new Upstate Entrepreneurial Culture is our recent success in convincing all parties that Upstate should become a decentralized campus. Upstate has worked closely with SUNY RF on a plan to develop a Technology Transfer Office (TTO) at Upstate as well as to fully decentralize Sponsored Program (SP) services effective July 1, 2011. Upstate's TTO initiative is the result of both the RF dissolving its centralized TTO and developing a regionalization approach to technology transfer and the need for dedicated resources locally to meet Upstate's growing needs. We recently hired an outstanding Director of Research Technology Commercialization, Scott Macfarlane, who most recently was a Senior Tech Transfer Officer at Cornell and has had a varied career in biotechnology, information technology and building products manufacturing, both in startups and established companies. The Decentralization process, a longtime goal of Upstate Medical University, will add efficiencies, cut costs or be cost neutral, and hopefully add an increased stream of royalty revenue. The decentralization plan was led by Eric Smith with the support of pre-award and post-award staff, Cindy, Scott and SUNY RF.

Creating a more entrepreneurial culture at Upstate is a journey, not a destination. We are three years into that journey and have made significant progress. But we have a long road ahead. The pay off for diligently following this path is recruitment and retention of entrepreneurial faculty and students, greater involvement of Upstate in the economic development of the region and NY State, increased impact on healthcare delivery and patient health, and new streams of revenue for Upstate.



Steve Goodman, Ph.D.
VP for Research
Dean, College of Graduate Studies

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Facilitating the Commercialization of Upstate Technology



During the development of the Strategic Plan for Strengthening Research, entrepreneurship, intellectual property and ties to industry were identified as key factors for Upstate to achieve its research goals. Scott Macfarlane joined Upstate as Director of Research Technology Commercialization in late April, bringing the responsibility of intellectual property, patents and tech transfer directly to our campus. Scott came to Upstate from Cornell University where he spent nearly eleven years working in technology commercialization, managing a broad portfolio of physical and life sciences technologies and facilitating the formation of more than two dozen startup companies. Prior to Cornell, Scott was co-founder and CFO of a California biotechnology startup, business development director at a local software company, and in management at several manufacturing companies.

Scott has opened Upstate's new Technology Transfer Office, TTO, taking over the management and commercialization of Upstate's intellectual property from the SUNY Research Foundation's central office. He will be working with faculty, students and staff to move innovations from the lab and drawing board to the market where they can benefit both patients and the local economy. Scott can be reached at (315) 464-7613 or macfarls@upstate.edu.



May marks the one year anniversary of the arrival of Cindy Dowd Greene, Associate VP of Industry Relations. Cindy is responsible for building relationships with industry and other institutions to further both clinical and basic research at Upstate. In addition, Cindy has spent much of the last year developing connections and processes that will support Upstate faculty, students, and staff in the creation of new companies based on Upstate intellectual property. Cindy is leading efforts to identify client companies to move into the "CNY/BRC", Upstate and EFS's new bio-incubator, when it opens in May of 2012. Cindy can be reached at 315-464-4398 or dowdgrec@upstate.edu.

Together, Scott and Cindy will work closely with Upstate entrepreneurs to accelerate the development of bench research and ideas into products that will benefit patients.



IRBNet Update:

Since the March 9th initiation of IRBNet, 422 Upstate researchers and staff are currently registered on IRBNet and over 125 studies have been transitioned from paper to the IRBNet electronic management system. IRBNet is working extraordinarily well and most of the technical issues we have encountered are due to the individual computer, not IRBNet. The clinical research coordinator's (CRA's) are fast becoming pro's and many of our faculty researchers are very pleased with the benefits of the electronic system.

According to Ruth Weinstock, "... IRBNet is a significant step forward, providing a platform for improved speed and efficiency in submitting and reviewing proposals. It decreases staff and investigator time and expense ... and saves trees! "

Benefits include the speed at which investigators can prepare and submit new studies for IRB review, the ease in reviewing documents by many investigators in different geographic locations, and the overall organization of studies on one platform which can be accessed anywhere there is an internet connection. The elimination of the need for numerous paper copies of each study is saving significant research staff time and expense.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR ALL FACULTY & DEPARTMENT CHAIRS:

The Upstate IRB relies on the expertise of the Upstate faculty to provide scientific merit review for human subject research studies conducted at Upstate or conducted outside the University by Upstate faculty.

The scientific evaluation of each protocol is undertaken to ensure that the proposed research procedures are consistent with sound research design to ensure that human subjects will not be unnecessarily exposed to risk by being asked to participate in a poorly designed study. This process ensures that the rights and welfare of research subjects are protected.

From time to time, members of the Upstate Faculty are asked to review research proposals for the IRB. We need all faculty to join the **Scientific Review Committee** on IRBNet.

Please follow the few steps listed below to join the scientific review committee. By signing up now, you will help your colleagues and Department by speeding up the IRB review process.

1. Log in to IRBNet with your username & Password
2. Click on "**USER PROFILE**" at the top right hand side of the screen
3. Click on "**Add an Additional Affiliation**" (just below "User Account Information")
4. **Check the "Boards" box for organization types.** Type 'Upstate' in the search field and Click Search. Select 'SUNY Upstate Scientific Reviewers' in the Your Organization field, then click Continue.
5. Complete contact information and click on "**save**". IRBNet will send you an activation e-mail. Once you receive the e-mail, click on the link in the e-mail (or copy and paste the link into your web browser) to activate your new affiliation.

If you need any help please call the IRB office for assistance 464-4317.

IRB DATES and Deadlines: http://www.upstate.edu/researchadmin/document/irb_meeting_dates.pdf

IRBNet Q & A

1. **Q: *I can't find the Registration form in IRBNet. How do I get to it?***
A: On the designer page, select "Add New Document". In the lower shaded "On-line Document" box, select "Registration Form for IRB Review" then click on the "Add" button. (Remember to "Save and Exit").
 2. **Q: *I need to share my project with a person at another institution, but that other institution is not listed in the organization drop-down list on the IRBNet registration site. Can we still share with them?***
A: Yes. When the person at the other organization registers on IRBNet, if their organization is not listed under any of the organization types (Research Institutions, Boards, or Sponsors), that person may add their organization's name and complete the registration process.
 3. **Q: *Do we still have to submit a 'clean' and a 'marked' copy of amended documents (i.e., applications and consent forms)?***
A: No. Submit amended documents with 'track changes'. No clean copy is necessary. Remember that consent documents should be submitted in Microsoft Word, and should not be submitted on letterhead. Also remember to leave the header free for the IRB stamp.
 4. **Q: *During transition from paper to IRBNet, when submitting an item on an existing study and completing the Registration ('wizard') Form, do all study team members have to sign?***
A: No. The PI has to sign the package. Other members of the study team must sign only for an initial application or when they are added to the study by an amendment.
 5. **Q: *I have forgotten my password and can't get into my IRBNet account. What do I do? Should I call the IRB Office for my password?***
A: No. The IRB Office does not have access to your IRBNet password. Go to the IRBNet login page, and click on "Forgot your password?" in the upper right hand corner of the screen. Enter your IRBNet User Name or one of your contact email addresses and IRBNet will email your password to you. You also have the option of changing your user profile (also in upper right of the screen).
 6. **Q: *I have an amendment and a Continuing Review Report to submit at the same time. Can these be submitted in one package via IRBNet?***
A: No. Submit one action (submission category) per package.
 7. **Q: *Can I submit more than one package at a time on the same study?***
A: Yes. Different actions can be submitted for the same study simultaneously. Just make sure they are submitted in different packages.
 8. **Q: *How do I re-lock a package once the requested revisions have been completed?***
A: Once you have made your revisions, click on "Mark revisions complete" at the top of the designer page. This will re-lock the package and send the IRB office an automated e-mail that the revisions are completed.
 9. **Q: *If a package has been locked, can the package still be signed?***
A: Yes. You can continue to obtain signatures on a locked package.
Note: Under no circumstances should you create a new package just for the purpose of obtaining signatures.
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Coeus Electronic Application-Submission Module to be Implemented Soon

SUNY Upstate Medical University has joined the SUNY **COEUS** Consortium. To date the consortium consists of five schools: University of Albany, Stony Brook University, Binghamton University, Upstate Medical University, and University of Buffalo. Use of the system will give the Sponsored Programs Pre-Award staff the ability to electronically route and approve outgoing proposals. System demonstrations sessions will be scheduled for mid-summer. If you want to begin using the system now, a walkthrough of the system capabilities can be arranged by contacting: Jason Wagoner at; wagonerj@upstate.edu.

Decentralization of Pre-and Post-Award

As previously discussed by Dr. Steve Goodman, VP for Research in the VPR Corner, Upstate is decentralizing the pre and post award services. A new process for administering contracts, clinical trials, and other agreements is now underway within the Sponsored Programs Pre-Award Office. Over the past few months, the staff has been working with the Research Foundation Central Office to transfer the negotiations of all agreements in Albany to the staff here at Upstate. After this transition is complete, all contracts will be negotiated and signed locally. Clinical Trials, Research Agreement Amendments, and Non-Disclosure agreements are now being negotiated by the Pre-Award staff. The remaining Research Agreements and Sub award Agreements will continue to be signed in Albany, with the final transition to Upstate occurring July 1.

Should you have any questions or comments about Pre-Award please contact Jennifer Rudes at; rudesj@upstate.edu or Jason Wagoner at; wagonerj@upstate.edu.

For Post Award; most Research Foundation Accounting functions will now be campus based. Deb Weber at; Weberd@upstate.edu and Gina McMahon at; McMahong@upstate.edu are the Post Awards contacts.

Proteomics Core

Upstate's Proteomics Core is a relatively new institutional core. With instrumentation located in 4303 Weiskotten Hall Addition, this core promotes the understanding and use of proteomics technologies. The core acquired its LTQ Orbitrap XL mass spectrometer in the fall of 2009, and this state-of-the-art piece of equipment became fully functional by February, 2010. The core is able to determine molecular weight, identify proteins, map specified PTMs, (Post transitional Modifications) and profile proteins using iTRAQ, cICAT or 2-D DIGE analyses. Information about this core, including details on its equipment and services, fee schedule, sample preparation, and submission forms to request services can be found at the core's web site at <http://www.upstate.edu/proteomics/>.

Clinical Research Unit Has a New Director

Congratulations to Ruth Weinstock, MD, PhD, who took over recently has the director of Upstate's Clinical Research Unit (CRU). Located on the first floor of the Institute for Human Performance, the CRU continues to provide the specialized space and services needed for researchers to conduct Phase I-V clinical studies. More information about the CRU can be found at <http://www.upstate.edu/cru/>.

Collaborations: the Whole is Bigger than the Sum of Its Parts

Because Upstate encourages local, regional, national and international opportunities for research collaboration to extend its reach beyond the boundaries of our own campus, Upstate faculty seeking collaborations have a wealth of opportunities available.

Locally, Upstate participates in numerous collaborative efforts with its sister universities on the Hill, as well as those that offer partnerships with local industry. Upstate's VP for Research, Dr. Steve Goodman, meets regularly with the **Syracuse University** (<http://www.syracuse.edu>) and **ESF** (<http://www.esf.edu>) VPs to identify areas of collaboration, with an emphasis on research related to the impact of environmental exposures on health and human performance. Upstate is a member of the **Syracuse Center of Excellence** (<http://www.syracusecoe.org>), a university/industry collaborative that addresses global challenges in three focus areas: clean and renewable energy, indoor environmental air quality, and water resources with funding from the EPA. The Syracuse CoE has supported the research of Upstate faculty such as Dr. Usha Satish. The soon to be completed **CNY Biotechnology Research Center** <http://www.upstate.edu/biocenter> is a collaborative effort between Upstate, ESF.

The Upstate New York region is rich with academic institutions and a growing biomedical/biotechnology industrial sector. A number of regional collaborations reflect this richness. **The Upstate New York Translational Research Network** (UNYTRN) (<http://www.urmc.rochester.edu/ctsi/links/urn.cfm>), a part of the University of Rochester's Clinical and Translational Science Institute (CTSI), assists members such as Upstate to increase the quality and quantity of translational research. Another regional entity, **MedTech** (<http://www.medtech.org/>), is a not-for-profit trade association comprised of technology manufacturers, research institutions such as Upstate, and others with a shared interest in collaborating to develop technologies, products, and services for the global medical products marketplace. MedTech hosts numerous events, MEDTECH 2011 Collaboration. The New Competitive Edge on September, 13, 2011, in Rochester.

SUNY REACH (http://www.upstate.edu/researchadmin/collaborations/suny_reach.php), a network of SUNY academic medical centers across New York State, including Upstate, is a phased investment in the people, core facilities, and information technology designed to unify and advance the research vision of the state's public academic health centers. Focus groups in this SUNY REACH start up phase include Neuroscience, Vision, and Clinical and Translational Research. In addition to Upstate, members include University at Buffalo, SUNY Downstate, Stony Brook University, and Graduate Center for Vision Research at SUNY College of Optometry. Another statewide collaboration, the **Syracuse Biomaterials Institute** (<http://biomaterials.syr.edu/>) is a collaboration of eight academic institutions, including Upstate and ESF, with a focus on biomaterials, smart medical devices and biological/tissue-engineered constructs.

The International Institute of Biomedical Sciences and Technology (IIBMST) (<http://www.upstate.edu/researchadmin/collaborations/iibmst/>) transcends geographic and scientific boundaries to facilitate collaborations between faculty at Upstate, the Technion-Israel Institute of Technology, and the National Cheng Kung University in Taiwan to accelerate the development of novel bioengineering, diagnostic, and biomedical products for the treatment and cure of disease in six focus areas: cancer; disorders of the nervous system; infectious diseases and emerging pathogens; diabetes, metabolic disorders and cardiovascular disease; pharmacogenetics and personalized medicine; and regenerative medicine and tissue engineering. IIBMST is currently in its membership-building phase, and Upstate faculty are encouraged to join and take advantage of the benefits of membership, including making connections with peers from other institutions, developing collaborations for research and publications, contributing to novel areas of interest, and gaining access to combined strength and capabilities when applying for grants.

In addition to these institutional collaborations, Upstate faculty are encouraged to have a presence on **Scholar Universe** (<http://www.scholaruniverse.com>) to find collaborators worldwide, but especially to **Find a SUNY Scholar**, with a link on the Research Administration home page (<http://www.upstate.edu/researchadmin>).



Ground is “Broken” for IHP Expansion

Friday, April 15, 2011 meant more than income tax deadline day at Upstate—it was the day that ground was broken for the expansion of the IHP, scheduled to come on line in 2013. In the company of such notables as SUNY Chancellor Nancy Zimpfer, State Senator Dave Valesky, and Assembly members Sam Roberts and Bill Magnarelli, Dr. David Smith aptly described the expansion as the down payment on a new economy--a \$72 million investment in teaching and research that will lead to new knowledge in order to save lives.

The IHP’s expanded area will provide 100,000 ft directly devoted to research, including three floors of labs, offices, and conference rooms for investigators engaged in research falling under the Disorders of the Nervous System pillar. The fourth floor will be devoted to core facilities in support of this research, such as vivarium. Architects selected for the project consulted with these Upstate researchers to assure that the design provide both open/flexible and closed labs and a variety of areas suited to interaction—including small and large seating areas and break and conference rooms---The design will bring scientists together based upon the focus of their research, not their departmental affiliations. Three of the many scientists, who will occupy the expanded IHP, Drs. Jeremy Shefner, Francesca Pignoni, and Stephen Glatt, explained how the design will support their goals of translating research from lab bench to bedside, facilitating communication and collaboration between researchers, and providing a teaching lab environment. In the presence of NAMI (National Alliance for the Mentally Ill) local chapter president, Beverly Pringle, Dr. Glatt explained that this team science approach to research will break down walls and barriers to progress for stakeholders such as Ms. Pringle.

For Steve Goodman, PhD, Vice President for Research, who has been working on the IHP expansion project since coming to Upstate three years ago, the groundbreaking was a most welcome culmination of these efforts—from the designation of research pillars through the strategic planning process,; the decision of which pillar the IHP would house, to the selection of an architectural firm that invited the end users (the researchers) to the table during the design phase to insure that the team science culture would impact the structure, to the groundbreaking on April 15, 2011.

SUNY Chancellor Nancy Zimpfer acknowledged not only Dr. Goodman’s ability to move the IHP expansion from a vision to a reality, but also his successful efforts to bring the four SUNY academic health centers and College of Optometry together through REACH, the Research Excellence in Academic Health collaborative that provides a unique opportunity for New York State to not only expand research activity and increase extramural research support, but also to lead to a healthier New York. As the rendering of the expanded IHP was unveiled, Dr. Smith reminded us that this is not about a building; it is about making a difference in people’s lives.

Ask ReGELT

Dear ReGELT,

Getting a research project off the ground is often difficult and slow, even if one has funding, due in part to the various layers of administrative requirements. One of these is the need to obtain signatures from various people in several locations, some of whom may be hard to find. If this requirement can't be reduced, why can't we provide for 'electronic signatures' by e-mail as some institutions are already doing? Couldn't this be implemented campus-wide rather easily?

Joe Spadaro
Musculoskeletal Research Lab

Dear Joe,

Thanks for asking ReGELT. Actually things have changed drastically at Upstate over the past few months in regards to your question. Our Human Subjects Review Committee (IRB) has been completely electronic, including signatures since 3/9/2011. We have enlisted Jennifer Rudes, our Director of Sponsored Projects, to answer your Ask ReGELT question. Her answer follows below.

Our Pre-Award Sponsored Projects office has recently joined the SUNY COEUS Consortium, which consists of SUNY Stony Brook, Albany, Binghamton, & Buffalo. We are working diligently at implementing COEUS on our campus. COEUS is a web-based, electronic system created by MIT to assist in the development of all research proposals and direct electronic submission to federal agencies using Grants.gov. The purpose of the system is to simplify and make the proposal preparation and submission process more efficient.

The proposals are created, routed for internal approval and, if applicable, all submitted to sponsors electronically!

Our Department Chairs can view, approve, or reject proposals for correction from their computer or any smart electronic device. Once the Chair (or his/her alternate) electronically approves the application, the OSP Authorized Administrator (Jennifer Rudes or Jason Wagoner) is then notified via automated email and can then submit applications to the federal sponsor. This system will eliminate the need for our current paper-routing (College Face Sheet) process.

Jennifer and Jason are beginning to meet with department chairs and PIs for an introduction and training to the COEUS system!!

The ReGELT thanks you for your question.

Do you have a question for ReGELT, the Research and Graduate Education Leadership Team?

Team members welcome your questions, and will provide responses in the next Research Forum. Please direct questions to Ask ReGELT Humphreb@upstate.edu

Faculty Research Collaboration Day Coming June 21, 2011

Upstate's second annual Faculty Research Collaboration Day, scheduled for Tuesday, June 21 in 2231 Weiskotten Hall, will feature four neuroscientists whose interesting concept for collaboration came to fruition. Drs. Steven Youngentob, Steven Glatt, Stephen Faraone, and Jeremy Shefner will present in logical sequence how their collaboration came together. This will be followed by a panel discussion facilitated by Steven Goodman, PhD, VP for Research. The goal of Faculty Research Collaboration Day is to stimulate collaborative research and the presentations and discussion support that goal.

Student Research Day 2011

Honoring the legacy of Charles Ross, PhD, Student Research Day on April 13, 2011 featured 80 Upstate students from its four colleges presenting a wide array of research in platform and poster presentations. Ten students' platform presentations were professionally presented via power point followed by Q&A. Each year, the Graduate Student Association honors students with awards at the College of Graduate Studies' Convocation. The Research Presentation Award honors a graduate student presenter who displays excellence in presentation style, logic and feasibility of technique, scientific significance, and clarity of purpose when presenting his/her work. This year's winner is Benjamin Wolf, whose poster, with Michael Princiotta, PhD, was entitled *Listeria-Derived Recombinant Proteins are Processed by a Unique MHC Class I Processing Pathway*.

Michael Friedlander, PhD, founding director of the Virginia Tech Carilion Research Institute, not only gave an informative and engaging keynote address, but was also actively engaged in the platform presentations, asking key questions of the presenters, and interacted with students during their poster presentations.

For those who attended Student Research Day 2011, two things were abundantly clear: 1) that student platform and poster presenters were very proud of their research activities and accomplishments and the opportunity to present to an audience of their peers, mentors and additional faculty, staff, and members of the public; and 2) that these exceptionally gifted students have the potential to achieve success in research in their chosen fields.

2011 Beyond the Doctorate Research Day Highlighted Research of Upstate's Postdocs and Residents

Upstate's first annual Beyond the Doctorate Research Day, held on March 3, 2011, was an opportunity for postdocs and residents to share their research activities in platform and poster presentations. More than 150 faculty, staff and students attended the ten platform presentations and keynote address by Burton Sobel, MD, Professor of Medicine at the University of Vermont, and many more were present for the poster presentation. This event highlighted their innovative research, and also enabled the postdocs and residents to hone their presentation skills.

Nicholas Deakin, PhD, a postdoctoral fellow in the lab of Chris Turner, PhD, Professor of Cell and Developmental Biology, started the day with his platform presentation, ***Paxillin and Hic-5 Regulate Breast Cancer Cell Invasion, Plasticity and Metastasis***. Dr. Deakin received an award for his presentation and was also able to present his research in a manuscript he co-authored with Dr. Turner that was published in the ***American Society of Cell Biology Journal***.

The Office of Postdoctoral Affairs was extremely pleased with its first Beyond the Doctorate Research Day and is looking to make this an annual event.



New NIH Financial Conflict of Interest Regulations Are Coming What Every NIH-Sponsored Research Needs to Know

NIH-sponsored researchers are required to have a clear understanding of NIH's rules regarding financial conflict of interest (FCOI). In May, 2010, NIH issued a Notice of Proposed Rule Making entitled, Responsibility of Applicants for Promoting Objectivity in Research for Which Public Health Service Funding is Sought and Responsible Prospective Contractors, in order to amend the existing NIH FCOI regulations. From the definition of Significant Financial Interest (SFI) to disclosure to management, coverage and more, the new regulations are likely to be significantly different and failure to adhere to them could result in a range of negative consequences, including withholding funding or terminating an existing award. After issuing the proposed changes to FCOI in May, 2010 and extending the comment period to 8/19/10, NIH is now expected to issue the new FCOI rules at this time.

Therefore, Upstate faculties are encouraged to attend ***New NIH Financial Conflict of Interest Regulations: What Every Researcher Should Know*** webinar on Thursday, June 16 at 1 pm in 4507 Setnor. Presented by Kris West, Associate VP and Director of the Office of Research Compliance at Emory University, this webinar will provide an overview of the new rules and provide researchers with an understanding of what constitutes FCOI and their responsibilities, including reporting obligations. Institutional reporting responsibilities and policy requirements will also be covered. If the NIH does not issue its final FCOI regulations prior to June 16th, this seminar will be rescheduled to a later date.

More information about the NIH FCOI proposed rules, including a link to a summary of major proposed changes can be found here: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/policy/coi/>.

From the Travel Office:

The mileage reimbursement rate changed on 1/1/11 to \$0.51 per mile, but some people are still using last year's rate.

Randa Greer, State Travel will be retiring July 1, 2011. Many departments use both State and Research funding for their travel reimbursements and will be very sad to see her go.

From the Accounts Payable Office:

Christine Dorsey, Research Accounts Payable is retiring after 28 years of Service on 7/29/2011. We wish Chris all the best in her retirement.



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[Scott Macfarlane Technology Transfer](#)

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[Kathleen Pazaras, Sponsored Programs and
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[Kathy Pazaras](#)



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Upcoming Events

“Conversations in Entrepreneurship” will continue in early fall with Guest Speaker Peter Johnson, Vice President, Research and Development. Avery Dennison Medical Products Division.

Dr. Johnson is a graduate of Upstate Medical University and will be speaking about his experiences as a “pre-entrepreneur,” “it is often difficult to envision the steps to successfully find the path to entrepreneurship—especially for those who have followed structured routes to their present professions. This presentation will focus upon elements of this process, especially on acquiring the self knowledge required to choose one’s own optimal entrepreneurial path

Stay tuned for an announcement about the date! .

Hot Topics in Research “

IRBNet Q & A



Now that IRBNet has “gone live”
& many of you have had a chance
to use this web-based system,
Research Administration is offering
a follow-up IRBNet information session.

Whether or not you already attended a previous IRBNet training session,
all CRAs and investigators are welcome
to this informal question & answer session.

Bring your questions
Share your tips

Thursday, June 23, 2011
1:00-2:15 pm
Room 1507, Setnor Hall

(Light refreshments will be served)

RSVP to Robin Cerro (cerror@upstate.edu or 4-4328