

Are You an
Investigator
Needing Help?

About

News & Events

Research Resources

Training & Education

Grants & Funding

Community Engagement

Volunteer for Research

Tools

Indiana CTSI receives \$5 million from Indiana Economic Development Corp. for new and expanded initiatives

May 21, 2015

The Indiana CTSI has received \$5 million in funds from the Indiana Economic Development Corp. to expand its efforts to strengthen Indiana's biomedical research enterprise and translate discoveries into new therapies and products.

With the funding, the Indiana CTSI is creating three new initiatives: a molecular therapeutics program, a program to connect relevant industry mentors to entrepreneur-researchers (PRIMER) and creation of an academic research commercialization hub for Indiana (ARCHIE).

The funding also will underwrite the expansion of the project development team system to IU Bloomington, Purdue and Notre Dame, as well as the expansion of the clinical trials office.

"This investment in the Indiana CTSI by the Indiana Economic Development Corp. demonstrates the state's commitment to supporting Indiana's critically important life sciences industry. These funds will be key to strengthening the CTSI mission to bring Indiana scientists' discoveries to the marketplace and to patient care," said William B. Stephan, IU vice president for engagement.

"The Indiana CTSI has developed a strong track record as witnessed by our highly scored renewal proposal and funding of \$30 million for an additional five years. But this investment will enable us develop the innovative programs to keep Indiana competitive with the other nationally known biotechnology centers such as Boston and San Francisco," said Anantha Shekhar, M.D., Ph.D., director of the Indiana CTSI.

The molecular therapeutics program will provide project mapping and medicinal chemistry assistance to investigators. The molecular therapeutics portal will serve as a one-stop entry point for CTSI researchers with therapeutics project at any state of the drug discover and development process. In addition, the program will assist developers by developing interdisciplinary teams of scientists to move compounds toward an investigational new drug (IND) application. In addition, the state funds will enhance the ability of the CTSI's Phase I program at the IU School of Medicine such that more novel therapies can be tested for the first time in human subjects.

The program to connect relevant industry mentors to entrepreneur-researchers -- PRIMER -- will create a network of mentors with biomedical industry and biotechnology startups to provide company development assistance to investigators seeking to commercialize their discoveries.

The Academic Research Commercialization Hub for Indiana -- ARCHIE -- is designed to strengthen the process of moving discoveries from IU, Purdue and Notre Dame into products. While commercialization initiatives have provided regional benefits, the state has unrealized capacity for moving life science research into the marketplace. Some of these funds will support the development of a biomedical incubator at the Indianapolis campus to support academic startup companies.

For example, over the past 3 years, Indiana University, Purdue University, and the University of Notre Dame reported a total of 739 health care invention disclosures. With patent applications filed on approximately 50 percent of the disclosures, 300 available technologies remain between the three institutions and provide a strong pool of high potential technologies of strategic interest to commercialize.



Bill Stephan

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Newsletter

Grants Login

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Are You an
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Needing Help?

About

News & Events

Research Resources

Training & Education

Grants & Funding

Community Engagement

Volunteer for Research

Tools

Peer review and mentoring committees (PRMC) building momentum

May 21, 2015

The peer review and mentoring committee system created early in 2014 to strengthen our NIH application process is continuing to build momentum with IUSM investigator Matthias Clauss, Ph.D., giving his recent experience a positive report.

The committees include clinical research and basic science faculty with proven track records in grantsmanship and mentoring, with project management and biostatistics support.

Dr. Clauss, associate research professor of cellular & integrative physiology met with members of the cardiovascular PRMC, headed by Michael Sturek, Ph.D., chair of the department of cellular and integrative physiology.

The proposal was a revised version of one that Dr. Clauss had submitted previously, seeking a Veterans Administration merit award. The study proposed to look at the process in which Nef -- negative regulatory factor, a protein that is encoded by the HIV virus -- inserts itself into the endothelial cells lining blood vessels, leading to cardiovascular problems. The study would also investigate how the protein might be blocked from invading the endothelial cells or how its effects might be blocked once already there.

In previous work, Dr. Clauss and his colleagues had identified a promising pathway and had laid the groundwork for developing a model transgenic mouse.

With \$14,600 in funds from the committee, they were able create the mouse model and get preliminary data.

"The results were instrumental in getting a fundable score from the NIH," said Dr. Clauss.

Specifically, the R01 application scored at the 10th percentile, and with the National Heart Lung and Blood Institute funding at the 13th percentile, the proposal seems assured of getting funded, Dr. Sturek said.

In addition to the cardiovascular committee, a neuroscience committee is chaired by Michael Vasko, Ph.D., Paul Stark Professor of Cardiology, and an obesity/metabolism committee is co-chaired by Aaron Carroll, M.D., associate dean for research mentoring and Robert Considine, Ph.D., professor of medicine.

The PRMC committees received a "thumbs-up" from Dr. Clauss.

"I think it's a great thing to do, to get help getting preliminary data, to get help with grant writing, to get help with possible shortcomings that we don't see because we're so focused on our ideas," said Dr. Clauss.

"Having such a system is good for our campus, helping us compete with other schools," he said.

[Return to the Indiana CTSI Newsletter](#)

{comments on}



Matthias Clauss, PhD

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Newsletter

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- About
- News & Events
- Research Resources
- Training & Education
- Grants & Funding
- Community Engagement
- Volunteer for Research
- Tools

IU MBA students provide CTSI cores with business management recommendations

May 21, 2015

MBA students from the IU Kelley School of Business-Bloomington have once again presented business management recommendations to two core facilities affiliated with the Indiana Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute.

One team offered marketing and business management suggestions to the Electron Microscopy Center, the second provided alternatives for developing a costing strategy for the new Single Cell Biology Core, which will house the recently purchased CyTOF Mass Cytometry equipment currently being installed at the IU School of Medicine.

"The two teams, composed of first and second year MBA students, gained valuable experience for their future internships and full-time positions. Dr. Eddy Srour, from the Single Cell Biology Core, and Dr. Roger Innes, from the Electron Microscopy Center, both stated they appreciated the teams' work and looked forward to putting their recommendations to good use. Kelley looks forward to working with the CTSI in the future," said George M. Telthorst, director of the Center for the Business of Life Sciences at the IU Kelley School of Business.

For the Electron Microscopy Center, the students prepared recommendations for a marketing initiative, including offering a workshop, enhancing the web site and preparing printed materials. They suggested the adoption of business management tools and a tiered service model.

To develop a costing strategy for the new Single Cell Biology Core, the MBA team interviewed officials familiar with the technology at Purdue University, the University of Maryland, the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai and Fluidigm, the machine's manufacturer.

The MBA team presentations are part of a life science practicum course collaboration between the Kelley School of Business and the Indiana CTSI Access Technology Program.

The presentations prepared by the students can be accessed here:

- [Costing Strategy for Flow Cytometry](#)
- [Electron Microscopy Center Marketing Strategy](#)

If your core or program is interested in applying to this program for business administration assistance, please contact the Indiana CTSI ATP at ctsitr@iu.edu.

[Return to the Indiana CTSI Newsletter](#)

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Citing CTSI

Newsletter

Grants Login

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- [About](#) ▾
- [News & Events](#) ▾
- [Research Resources](#) ▾
- [Training & Education](#) ▾
- [Grants & Funding](#) ▾
- [Community Engagement](#) ▾
- [Volunteer for Research](#) ▾
- [Tools](#) ▾

CHEP funded pilot project seeks to reduce language barriers in the health care setting

May 21, 2015

An Indiana CTSI-sponsored study now underway could help bring improved health care to Latino infants with special needs by implementing a program of English for Specific Purposes at Riley Hospital for Children.

The International Center for Intercultural Communication at IUPUI and Family Voices Indiana are collaborating on the program of targeted language instruction as one of the community-based research pilot projects supported by the Indiana CTSI's Community Health Engagement Program.

Latino children are the group most likely to be in families that are uninsured or underinsured, and language is often an additional barrier to obtaining health services, said Ulla Connor, director of the IUPUI center.

"Latino children with special health care needs are particularly vulnerable with a significant risk of poor outcomes and mortality," Connor said.

"Our goal is to strengthen Latino families' English language skills in ways that will help them better communicate with health care providers in the hospital and to navigate the health care system after their children return home."

English for Specific Purposes is designed to meet the specific needs of learners based on their initial levels of proficiency within significant time constraints. Such a program has been implemented with parents at a local school but not in a health care setting.

The IUPUI intercultural communication center is bringing its expertise in English for Specific Purposes to the project, while Family Voices Indiana is bringing its experience working with the parents of children with special health care needs.

"Family Voices Indiana experiences that all families who are raising children and youth with special health care needs are better able to partner in care when they learn key language skills related to their child's health. This is even more true in families where English is not their primary language. We are excited to partner to meet this need at the care level of families," said Rylin Rodgers, founder and director of Family Voices Indiana.

The first stage of the project, with needs-analysis data collection and curriculum development, has been completed. In the second stage, the curriculum will be piloted with at least six low literacy caregivers to improve their English communication with health care professionals while their children are being treated at Riley Hospital and after they are discharged. An additional goal of the program is to improve families' ability to enroll in local English as Second Language programs in the community. The piloted curriculum and the training of trainers' program will be ready for implementation in Family Voices Indiana programs and, potentially, with Family Voices nationally.

The intercultural communication center will work with the IU Research and Technology Corp. to copyright and license the final curriculum and materials that emerge from the study for use in adult education English as a Second Language programs nation-wide.



Ulla Connor, PhD

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Are You an Investigator Needing Help?

- About
- News & Events
- Research Resources
- Training & Education
- Grants & Funding
- Community Engagement
- Volunteer for Research
- Tools

Brenda Hudson named Indiana CTSI operations director

May 21, 2015

Brenda Hudson, who developed and has managed the office for research recruitment at the Indiana CTSI since 2010, has been named the organization's new director of operations.

In her new role, Hudson will be responsible for increasing the level of collaboration and synergy across all of the Indiana CTSI's programs and partners, identifying ways to break down barriers -- both real and perceived -- to increase the utilization of the Indiana CTSI's resources and services.

She will also work with the IU School of Medicine's communications office to develop and oversee a marketing strategy to increase awareness of the Indiana CTSI. Her duties will also include launching new local and statewide programs and initiatives and working with Indiana CTSI partners to coordinate clinical and translational research outreach programs.

Before being named program manager for subject enrollment and research volunteer engagement in 2010, Hudson served as program manager for the Community Health Engagement Program.



Brenda Hudson

[Return to the Indiana CTSI Newsletter](#)

{comments on}

Support & Feedback

Citing CTSI

Newsletter

Grants Login

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Are You an
 Investigator
 Needing Help?

About

News & Events

Research Resources

Training & Education

Grants & Funding

Community Engagement

Volunteer for Research

Tools

May 2015 Indiana CTSI ATP Newsletter

Two cores have been added to the list of CTSI approved facilities, the Purdue Genomics Core and the Center for Research Computing (CRC) at the University of Notre Dame. The Center for Medical Genomics has new offerings and the Alfresco Share is to be taken out of production. The Indiana Center for Biological Microscopy hosted its 6th Indiana O'Brien Intravital Microscopy Workshop at the end of April.

The Center for Research Computing (CRC) at the University of Notre Dame is an innovative and multidisciplinary research environment that collaborates with researchers across Notre Dame departments and nationally to facilitate discoveries using advanced computation, data analysis, and other digital research tools. Comprised of three complementary groups: High Performance Computing (HPC), Cyberinfrastructure (CI), and Research Software Development, the CRC supports the growth and excellence of research with the efficient operation and promotion of the University's research computing infrastructure and by empowering faculty and industry partners to develop research environments that support advanced data creation, management, analysis and visualization services.

CRC computational scientists, research programmers, and visualization and geographical information systems (GIS) specialists create a personalized and valuable collaboration with researchers, while HPC engineers and user support research staff work together to provide users with specialized support to maximize their computational capacity to advance their research. The following are examples of translational projects of which the CRC is involved.

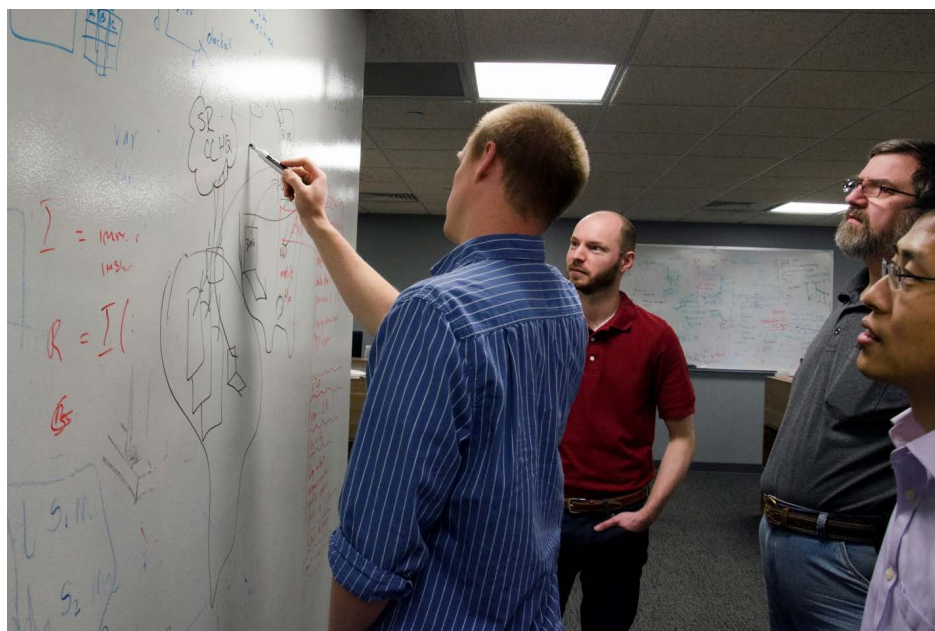
Malaria Transmission Consortium (**MTC**) is a project that collects and maintains malaria transmission field data. Together with the Vector-Borne Disease Network (**VecNet**) project, MTC can help malaria control program managers make informed decisions while implementing malaria control interventions. CRC programmers and computational scientists, together with Profs. Frank Collins and Greg Madey, developed the cyberinfrastructure for both projects that are funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

The CRC, through their collaboration with Professor Edwin Michael in Biological Sciences, develop a cyberinfrastructure for modeling and control of neglected tropical diseases (NTDs) that are rampant in the poorest populations in the world. The mathematical modeling plays a vital role in public health and decision-making to determine cost-effectiveness of drugs and vaccines.

With Professor Marya Lieberman in Chemistry and Biochemistry, the CRC develops tools and algorithms for Paper Analytical Devices (**PADs**) analysis. PADs are test cards that can quickly determine whether a drug tablet contains the correct medicines, or if they are fake. Novel advanced image recognition techniques for analyzing the cards, a web portal to accumulate and manage PAD data, as well as mobile PAD tools, are developed by CRC research staff members.

Website: <https://crc.nd.edu/>

Contact: crcsupport@nd.edu



CRC Programmers discussing malaria control interventions.

The Purdue Genomics Core was established in 1999 but it was not until 2011 that we added our first Illumina sequencer. DNA sequencing is a generic technology, of use to nearly all life science disciplines, including translational research. The power of these so-called "next generation" sequencers is such that the amount of sequence generated by Illumina sequencers soon exceeded all the sequence we had

amassed over the previous decade-plus.

Our current work-horse Illumina sequencer is our Illumina HiSeq 2500. It can run both the older, "High Output" chemistry as well as "Rapid" chemistry. We accept projects requiring as little as 10% of one lane of sequence—which is plenty to re-sequence a yeast genome. Many labs submit samples as either genomic DNA or total RNA. Our staff has long experience constructing a number of different library types from these starting materials. Most commonly we construct PCR-free DNA fragment (paired-end) libraries for resequencing or *de novo* sequencing projects or RNAseq libraries for "digital expression" analysis assays. But we also accept libraries made by other labs and offer QC and titration services so that they can be clustered to optimal densities on our instrument.

Contact: Phillip San Miguel pmiguel@purdue.edu

<http://www.genomics.purdue.edu/services/core.shtml>

The Center for Medical Genomics (CMG) has successfully performed miRNA sequencing of rat brain using Ion PGM system. The mapping rate to precursor miRNA regions reached 30-40% of total reads, majority of which mapped to its mature miRNA. This result surpassed the sequencing quality of many current publications. CMG is planning to test ultra-low-input RNAseq protocols at hundred picograms of input RNA. Stay tuned.

After the new Hi-Q Sequencing Kits on Ion PGM system, Life Technologies recently released the Hi-Q Sequencing Kits for Ion Proton system. The Ion PI Hi-Q Kits significantly increased the sequencing throughput from 8-10Gb up to 18Gb per chip with median read length up to 200bp. It also significantly improved coverage, reading accuracy, and overall sensitivity. This improvement could provide us not only better quality of sequencing data, but also further opportunity to cut the cost on RNA and DNA sequencing, as well as other specialty sequencings, such as Ion AmpliSeq Exome, Ion AmpliSeq Cancer Panels, small RNA, and bacterial genome sequencings.

For further information, or if you are interested in sending your samples for sequencing at CMG, please contact Dr. Xiaoling Xuei, xxuei@iu.edu.

Discontinuation of Alfresco Share Service at Indiana University: The Indiana CTSI has provided Alfresco Share to its constituency to support document sharing among teams engaged in research and administrative tasks across the CTSI for the past several years. Whereas it has performed well, it has been surpassed by services that are in place at each of the 3 Indiana CTSI institutions and, in fact, usage of Alfresco Share has fallen off dramatically as faculty and staff have moved to these new platforms.

Because of that, we have decided to decommission the Alfresco Share service. It will be replaced by services provided by each of our institutions:

Box at Indiana University (<https://box.iu.edu>)

Box and other tools at Notre Dame available through the Shared File Space site (<http://oithelp.nd.edu/shared-file-space/>)

PURR and FileLocker at Purdue University (<https://purr.purdue.edu> and <https://filelocker.purdue.edu>)

Alfresco Share will remain in production through August, 2015 at which point the files will still be accessible, but the ability to upload new files will become disabled as per the terms of the license with Alfresco.

We encourage those of you that are setting up new document sharing sites to use one of these above services. These allow you to share documents with members of other institutions, preserving the inter-institutional collaboration that is important to our institutional mission.

We will follow up very soon with information on how to move existing Alfresco Share sites to these other platforms including the organizations that will support the migration, migration tools, and more extensive information about how to migrate your sites.

We will also follow up with information about how to safely manage sensitive documents, such as those containing protected health information. We are finalizing plans to provide Box service for ePHI for sites owned by IU investigators, which will be managed by the Clinical Affairs Information Technology Services (CAITS).

- Bill Barnett, Co-Director, Translational Informatics, Indiana CTSI and Director, Advanced Biomedical IT Core, Research Technologies division of UITS

At the end of April, the Indiana Center for Biological Microscopy hosted its 6th Indiana Obrien Intravital Microscopy Workshop. Attended by twenty students from all over the United States, the workshop provided hands-on training in intravital microscopy of the kidney and lectures from experts in the field of optical microscopy. This training takes place every 2 years.



CyTOF mass cytometry system arrives at the IU School of Medicine

The next generation of cytometry -- mass cytometry -- is in the process of installation at the IU School of Medicine, promising a new level of sophistication in research tools for scientists in a broad range of fields. The third floor of Walther Hall will house the new CyTOF (Cytometry Time of Flight) Mass Cytometry System from Fluidigm.

Edward (Eddy) F. Srour, Ph.D., who has overseen the operations of the Flow Cytometry Resource Facility, will also manage the new Single Cell Biology Core, which is being installed in the same lab.

IU joined a relative handful of leading academic research institutions to invest in the technology, one that probes more deeply into cellular activities, identifies more proteins, captures many more downstream events -- in general lets investigators ask much more sophisticated research questions.

The key to the CyTOF's power, Dr. Srour said, is that the discovery process uses mass spectrometry to identify heavy metal tags, resulting in highly specific, narrow signals instead of the overlapping emissions of fluorescent tags used in traditional flow cytometry. The CyTOF will enable researchers to efficiently differentiate 32 signals -- and someday as many as 100 as reagents become available -- in one experiment. The system will be a major asset for efforts in drug discovery and experimental therapeutics.

Along with the CyTOF, the School of Medicine has purchased the Fluidigm C1 and Biomark Single-Cell Auto Prep and Analysis System, which does whole transcriptome analysis of individual cells -- 96 cells or more at a time.

A cost and expense structure for using the system is being developed with the goal of encouraging broad use.

[Return to the Indiana CTSI Newsletter](#)

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- [Support & Feedback](#)
- [Citing CTSI](#)
- [Newsletter](#)
- [Grants Login](#)

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About

News & Events

Research Resources

Training & Education

Grants & Funding

Community Engagement

Volunteer for Research

Tools

Indiana CTSI Indiana CTSI Open Requests for Applications -- May 2015

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

Call for Applications: August M. Watanabe Translational Scholar

Background: The Watanabe Prize for Translational Research and the selection of two Watanabe Translational Scholars, are presented biennially by the IU School of Medicine. The awards are named after the late August M. Watanabe, an IU School of Medicine alumnus whose illustrious career spanned academia and the pharmaceutical and life science industries.

The 2015 Watanabe Prize for Translational Research has been awarded to Dr. Carl June for his significant contributions to the field of translational science. Carl H. June, M.D. is the Richard W. Vague Professor in Immunotherapy and Director of the Center for Cellular Immunotherapies in the Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania. Dr. June is a graduate of the Naval Academy in Annapolis, and Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, 1979. He had graduate training in Immunology and malaria with Dr. Paul-Henri Lambert at the World Health Organization, Geneva, Switzerland from 1978-79, and post-doctoral training in transplantation biology with Dr. E. Donnell Thomas at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center in Seattle from 1983-1986. He is board certified in Internal Medicine and Medical Oncology. He founded the Immune Cell Biology Program and was head of the Department of Immunology at the Naval Medical Research Institute from 1990 to 1995. He rose to Professor in the Departments of Medicine and Cell and Molecular Biology at the Uniformed Services University for the Health Sciences in Bethesda, Maryland before assuming his current position at the University of Pennsylvania as of February 1, 1999. [READ MORE](#)

We are currently accepting applications for two Watanabe Translational Scholars. The two selected scholars hold the Watanabe Scholar title for two years, present on their work during the Annual Indiana CTSI Meeting (Friday, Sept. 11, 2015), and under the program will benefit from the mentorship of Carl June, MD. In addition, scholars receive \$5,000 for travel and mentor meetings.

Eligibility: Indiana University School of Medicine junior faculty members who hold an **Assistant Professor, Tenure Track** position and are focused on conducting translational research.

Application Process: Please send the following information/materials to Donna Burgett at dfburgett@regenstrief.org by June 15, 2015.

- Applicant's Name, Title, and Contact Information
- Applicant's CV
- Statement of Interest: A one-page statement summarizing: (a) the applicant's current program of research, and (b) how informal mentoring from Dr. Carl June will help advance the applicant's program of research.

Applicants will be notified of a decision in early July.

Molecular Therapeutics Program seeks applications

The Molecular Therapeutics Program, a part of the Indiana Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute, seeks applications for a competitive program that will provide funds and essential consultation to support the early stage development of therapeutics. This opportunity is provided in concert with the newly established Indiana Drug Discovery Alliance (IDDA), a clearinghouse for drug discovery and development resources at the Indiana-CTSI member institutions of Indiana University, Purdue University and the University of Notre Dame.

The Molecular Therapeutics Program will support new collaborations and/or the use of core facilities that enable the translation of fundamental research related to drug discovery. Critical project feedback will be provided from a team of experienced industry and academic experts on the group's internal advisory committee, as well as through ad-hoc, project-specific pharmaceutical expert reviewers.

A detailed budget is not required at this time. Support projects will develop a budget of up to \$15,000 in consultation with the IDDA.

The deadline for applications is 5 p.m. Wednesday, July 1, 2015. Complete guidelines and application forms are available for download at <https://www.indianactsi.org/grantinfo/grant/195> Applicants must log in using their institutional username and password to submit proposal.

For more information, contact Padma Portonovo at pportono@iupui.edu.

CHEP soliciting proposals for community-based research projects

Indiana CTSI CHEP 2015 Community-based Research Pilot Projects RFA

The Indiana CTSI Community Health Engagement Program (CHEP) is soliciting proposals from applicants developing or currently involved in collaborative, community-based research projects. Community-based research, for the purposes of this RFA, is defined as collaborative efforts with at least one community-based organization and at least one academic partner. The Indiana CTSI CHEP will provide up to \$25,000 in funding per pilot project. Proposed project duration should not exceed 12 months. The number of funded awards will be based on the number and quality of applications received. The focus areas of the 2015 RFA are in line with the priorities of the Indiana State Department of Health. They are (1) reducing infant mortality, (2) increasing immunizations, (3) decreasing tobacco use and (4) decreasing obesity. Projects that propose achieving their objectives by changing (or demonstrating the potential to change) policy, systems, and/or the environment are strongly encouraged. Strong preference will be given to projects that have robust plans for sustaining and expanding the

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- [Citing CTSI](#)
- [Newsletter](#)
- [Grants Login](#)

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partnership's activities after conclusion of support from CHEP. Additional preference is given to projects that are likely to (a) have a significant beneficial long-term impact on an important health issue; (b) produce written or web-based products; (c) submit fundable applications for extramural funding; and/or (d) result in the creation of intellectual property. Proposals are due by July 21, 2015 at 5:00 p.m. (EST). An information session webinar will take place on May 26, 2015, 11 a.m.-12.p.m. (EST). For more information, please see the full Request for Applications at <https://www.indianactsi.org/grants/index.php/CBR1507> and frequently asked questions page www.indianactsi.org/chep/rfaq

[Return to the Indiana CTSI Newsletter](#)

Events Calendar

January, 2017

By Year **By Month** By Week Today Jump to month

◀ December 23 January 2017 February ▶

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|-----|-----------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 05:15pm Healthy Weight ... | 6 | 7 |
| 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 02:00pm Collaborative R ... | 13 | 14 |
| 15 | 16 08:00am Dr. Martin Luth ... | 17 Poster submissi ... | 18 | 19 09:30am Indiana Healthy ... | 20 | 21 Susan G. Komen ... |
| 22 | 23 | 24 08:00am Indiana Rural H ... 09:00am Public and Enga ... 02:30pm Demonstrating a ... | 25 08:00am Talking Tenure, ... | 26 | 27 01:00pm Webinar - Model ... | 28 |
| 29 | 30 | 31 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |

DEFAULT
 General
 Conference
 Default
 Research Seminar
 CHEP Events
 CHIIS Events
 Training
 CHEP Training
 All Categories ...

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- About
- News & Events
 - News Center
 - Newsletter
- Announcements
- Events Calendar
- Research Resources
- Training & Education
- Grants & Funding
- Community Engagement
- Volunteer for Research
- Tools

Support & Feedback

Citing CTSI

Newsletter

Grants Login

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