NCATS Improving Health Through Smarter Science

DPI Intramural Training Program

Marcus G. Hodges, PhD DPI Intramural Training and Education



NCATS Strategic Plan Goal 3

Develop and foster innovative translational training and a highly skilled, creative and diverse Translational Science workforce.

- 3.1 Identify and broadly disseminate the distinct knowledge, skillsets and core competencies needed.
- 3.2 Develop and support Translational Science training and career development programs.
- 3.3 Support the widespread acceptance of Translational Science as a formal discipline.
- 3.4 Expand understanding of Translational Science.

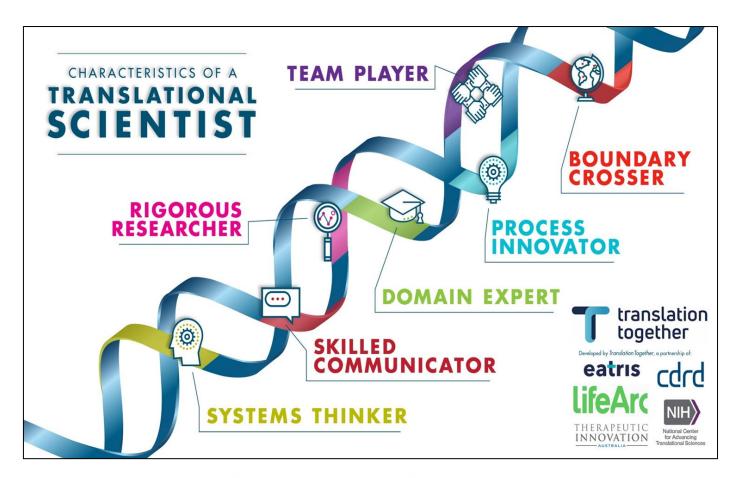


GOALS OF THE DPI INTRAMURAL TRAINING AND EDUCATION PROGRAM

- Provide training opportunities that help trainees develop the fundamental characteristics of a translational scientist.
- Foster a well-rounded training experience by enhancing the combination of research, didactic, and professional development training.
- Increase awareness of the translational science field among STEM students.
- Increase promotion of DPI intramural training opportunities.



DPI INTRAMURAL TRAINING PROGRAM



- Individual Development Plans
- Monthly Fellows Meeting
- Case Studies
- Postbac Poster Day
- Interactions with Invited Speakers
- Annual Fellows Retreat



Training Program Components	Related Translational Scientist Characteristics
Research Training	
Working across multiple projects	Boundary crosser, systems thinker, team player, process innovator
Evaluating robustness of assays	Rigorous researcher, domain expert, process innovator
Communicating with collaborators	Skilled communicator, team player
Education and Professional Development Activities	
Case studies	Boundary crosser, systems thinker, team player, process innovator
Monthly trainee's meeting, annual poster day, and annual retreat	Skilled communicator, boundary crosser, domain expert
Invited speaker seminars	Skilled communicator, boundary crosser



Individual Development Plan

- Aligns goals and expectations.
- Helps facilitate positive working relationships.
- Helps establish research plan and monitor progress.
- Facilitates identification and discussion of educational and career goals.
- Useful in identifying/addressing gaps in skill sets.
- Valuable tool during job search and interview process.



Monthly Fellow Meetings

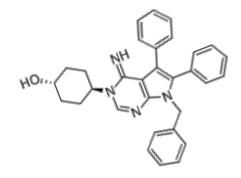
- Showcase research.
- Develop/enhance presentation skills.
- Opportunity to:
 - Increase knowledge of other NCATS projects.
 - Increase network among NCATS Fellows.
 - Get updated on upcoming training events.

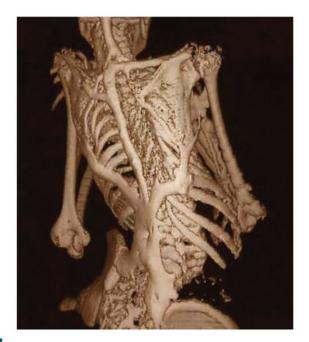




Case Study Sessions

- Metarrestin, FOP
- Integrated way to present multidisciplinary work.
- Highlight contributions of different teams and disciplines to a project.
- Explain how to apply translational science skills.
- Enhance familiarity with broader translational science concepts:
 - Translational science spectrum.
 - Transition points between each stage of the spectrum.
 - Scientific and operational principles applicable to wide-array of translational research projects.







Postbac Poster Days

- All postbacs required to present at NIH and NCATS Poster Days.
- Opportunity to showcase research.
- NIH-wide networking with other fellows and scientists.
- Increase and expand knowledge domain.

Invited Speakers

- Sunita Shukla, MPH, PhD FDA (NCATS Alum)
 - "You're in the Driver's Seat: A Strategic Approach to Planning YOUR Career" (2018)
- Amy Hsu, PhD, RAC FDA (NCATS Alum)
 - "Career Transition from NCATS to FDA" (2019)
- Career Talk Series:
 - Marc Abrams, PhD Dicerna Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (July/2020)
 - Keith C. Norris, MD, PhD UCLA (August/2020)
- V. Devanarayan, PhD GlaxoSmithKline (TBD):
 - "Data Analysis Concepts, Reproducibility and Replicability for Drug Discovery Applications"







Annual Fellows Retreat (NHGRI & NCATS)

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- Professional development
- Expand professional network
- Three Minute Talk Competition
- Establish/foster support system

Examples of Trainee Activities

- Research Training
 - Lit. review & Lab techniques
 - Data analysis & Manuscript prep.
 - Team science & Collaboration
- Didactic Training
 - Onsite courses (i.e. FAES)
 - Online courses
- Science Communication
 - Written/Oral presentations
 - Conference/Symposia participation

- Journal Clubs
- Scientific Interest Groups
- Career/Professional Development Activities
- Health & Wellness Activities
- Career Counseling Sessions



Intramural Training Opportunities at DPI

Summer Internship (8-10 weeks) Postbac Fellowship (1-2 years) Predoctoral; Graduate Partnership (1-4 years/flexible) Medical Research Scholars (1 year) Postdoctoral Fellowship (1-5 years) Visiting Program(1-5 years)

> https://www.training.nih.gov/programs https://ncats.nih.gov/jobs



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