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#### Special Informatics Seminar Thursday May 16



Joel Saltz, MD, PhD

The CCTST will offer a special biomedical informatics seminar on Thursday, May 16 at 11 AM in Room E-351 of the UC Medical Sciences Building (MSB). [Joel Saltz, MD, PhD](#), director of the Center for Comprehensive Informatics at Emory University, will present **Integrative Multi-scale Biomedical Informatics**. Dr. Saltz is also professor and chair, department of biomedical informatics. Registration is not required. For more information, contact [Theresa Kenney](#).

#### CCTST Grand Rounds Friday May 17

**A Multidisciplinary Data Operations Approach for Clinical/Translational Research** is the topic of [CCTST Grand Rounds](#) on Friday, May 17 in Room 4051 of the UC Medical Sciences Building (MSB).



Bradley Pollock, PhD

Featured speaker from 11 AM to 12 PM is [Bradley Pollock, MPH, PhD](#), professor and chairman, department of epidemiology and biostatistics, University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio. He will discuss the importance of computational technologies for clinical/translational research data operations, illustrating the benefits of a multidisciplinary approach.

From 12 to 1 PM, a panel of biostatistics, biomedical informatics and data management specialists will identify and discuss local challenges and opportunities for multidisciplinary data operations in clinical/translational research. Maurizio Macaluso, MD, DrPH, co-director of the CCTST Biostatistics, Epidemiology & Research Design (BERD) core, will serve as chair.

CCTST Grand Rounds are free and open to the public. CME is offered for the first hour. Lunch is available to CCTST members ([join free of charge](#)) who RSVP to [Elizabeth Heubi](#) by May 15. An event flyer is [available here](#).

#### UC IRB Open House Wed. May 29

The [UC Institutional Review Board \(IRB\)](#) plays a critical role in the integrity of biomedical and social/behavioral research at UC, UC Health and the Cincinnati VA Medical Center. What exactly do IRB members do? How can I get involved? Get answers to these questions and more at the [UC IRB Open House](#), Wednesday May 29 in Room 454 of University Hall. Two sessions are available, 8-9 AM and 4-5 PM.

The agenda will include an introduction to the structure and function of the UC IRB, and an overview of member responsibilities. Current members will provide personal perspectives on their service. Ample time will be provided for questions, and refreshments will be served.

Registration is requested. Please email [Melanie Fulton](#) or call 558-0332 with your preferred time. An [event flyer](#) is available here. Co-sponsored by the CCTST.

#### CLI Grads, Community Health Grants Announced

The CCTST Community Engagement core announced 2013 Community Leaders Institute (CLI) graduates and Community Health Grant (CHG) awardees at its Health Transformation Dinner April 23 at Music Hall. Seven community-academic partnerships were awarded a total of \$98,000 (ave. grant \$14,000) for research projects promoting positive health outcomes. Eighteen representatives of community and governmental agencies graduated from the CLI, a 6-week leadership development training program designed to enhance community research and capacity building competencies.

**Robert Ludke, PhD**, UC emeritus professor of family medicine, received the 2013 CCTST Community Health Transformation Award, recognizing his work to transform health in the community through service, scholarship and leadership. The evening also featured keynote speaker [Adewale Troutman, MD, MPH, CPH](#), director of public health practice and leadership at the University of South Florida and president-elect of the American Public Health Association.

More information and a complete list of CHG projects and CLI grads is [available here](#). Congratulations to all!

#### Meet the Methodologist: Heidi Kalkwarf, PhD



Heidi Kalkwarf, PhD

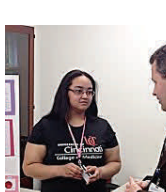
**Heidi Kalkwarf, PhD** received her doctorate in Nutrition from Cornell University in 1991. She came to CCHMC as a postdoctoral fellow in the Division of Neonatology and is currently a Research Professor in the Division of General and Community Pediatrics.

Dr. Kalkwarf's research focuses on bone health and body composition of children and adolescents. For the last decade, she has been actively engaged with several longitudinal, multicenter studies investigating the patterns of bone growth and development in healthy children and adolescents and those with chronic medical conditions. The goals of this work are to identify the short term and long term consequences of low bone density in childhood, identify children who are at risk for osteoporosis later in life and to identify interventions to reduce this risk.

Dr. Kalkwarf also serves as the scientific director of the Bionutrition and Body Composition Core Laboratory of the CTRC.

*"Meet the Methodologist" is a regular NewsBrief feature of faculty affiliated with the CCTST Biostatistics, Epidemiology & Research Design (BERD) core. Past profiles, an archive of BERD monthly seminar presentations and more are [available here](#).*

#### Hughes High School Students Present Research

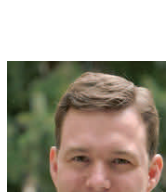


Hughes High School students partnered this spring with the CCTST and UC department of emergency medicine for an intercession research project culminating in poster presentations March 29. The week-long program was organized by BERD core co-director Chris Lindsell, clinical research coordinator Lindsay Bohanske, Hughes teacher Tiffany Stanton, and student teacher Nick Bohlen.

During their time at UC, the students learned about basic statistics and research methods through real world situations, and collected some "data" on sleep habits that they analyzed with the help of CCHMC biostatisticians. They were also introduced to a variety of health care and research careers through tours and interactive demonstrations, including testing of a research robot used to study mild traumatic brain injury.

As a result of this experience, at least one of the students now plans a biomedical research career! Congratulations to students Candace Black, Jamaisha Burdine, Mattia Burdine, Cyrina Gamble, Cheyenne Griffis-Greene, Dylan Howard, Nicole Love, Yashin Payne, Ronisha Robb, and Ziara Royston. Additional photos of their poster session are [available here](#).

#### KL2 Scholar Recognized at National Conference



David Hooper, MD

CCTST KL2 career development scholar [David Hooper, MD, MS](#) of the CCHMC division of nephrology and hypertension received special recognition at the [Improving Translational Science 2013](#) for his poster *Improving blood pressure control in pediatric kidney transplant recipients*, co-authored with Peter Margolis, MD, PhD.

Also presenting posters were [Nicholas Edwards, MD, MPH](#) (CCHMC sports medicine) and [Tolly Epstein, MD, MS](#) (UC and VAMC immunology) who recently completed the KL2 program. The conference was held April 17-19 in Washington, DC.

#### MSCTRP Grad a "Disease Detective" at CDC



Kpandja Djawe, PhD

**Kpandja Djawe, PhD**, a graduate of the CCTST-supported MS in Clinical and Translational Research program who also earned his doctorate in epidemiology at UC, is now an Epidemic Intelligence Service (EIS) officer with the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), based in Atlanta. His work contributing to the nearly-complete eradication of guinea worm disease was featured in an [Atlanta Journal-Constitution news article](#) April 20. As a "disease detective" he also studies HIV/AIDS and has been involved in pertussis vaccine evaluation in Haiti. More information is available in an [interview with UC Health News](#).

#### Ohio CTSA's Receive Boost for Clinical Trials

As part of the Governor's [Medical Corridor Initiative](#), the State of Ohio's Industrial Technology and Enterprise Advisory Council has approved a \$1.98 million grant to the Ohio Clinical Trials Collaborative, a partnership of the state's 3 CTSA institutions. Based at Case Western Reserve University and including the Ohio State University and University of Cincinnati, the collaboration will enhance the institutions' ability to expand the number of clinical trials in Ohio and create access to a larger pool of patients for enrollment, increasing the likelihood of their completion.

#### CCTST Methods, Ethics Awards Announced



Changchun Xie, PhD

The CCTST Biostatistics, Epidemiology & Research Design (BERD) core has announced 4 recipients of one-year Research Ethics and Methodologic Research program grants of up to \$10,000 each from the latest funding round. Principal investigators of methodologic research projects are **Changchun Xie, PhD**, assistant professor in the UC department of environmental health, and **Lili Ding, PhD** and **Bin Zhang, PhD**, assistant professors in the CCHMC division of biostatistics and epidemiology. PI of a research ethics project is **John Lynch, PhD**, UC department of communication. A table of project titles, investigators and co-investigators is [available here](#). Congratulations to our awardees!

Need assistance with your clinical/translational research project? [CCTST membership](#) (free of charge) is required for service. We now have over **1,900** members (and counting!).

Already a member? Please [log in from our home page](#) and click "Request Assistance with Your Research Project." The CCTST provides up to 10 hours of support per investigator per grant year (April 1-March 31), funded by the CTSA grant; 1 Research Central hour equals 1 hour of doctoral-level methodologic support or 2 hours of master's-level support. Additional hours, if needed, are billed at established rates.

#### What does the CCTST do?

Established in 2005, the CCTST provides guidance, information, support, resources and training to researchers across and beyond the Academic Health Center, with the support of an NIH Clinical and Translational Science Award (CTSA). Whether you're at UC, Cincinnati Children's, the Cincinnati VA Medical Center, UC Medical Center, or in the Greater Cincinnati community, we're here to help.

Can't find what you're looking for? [Contact us](#) or [visit our website](#).

#### Calendar

click links for details

**May 14, 3:00-4:45 PM: BERD Monthly Seminar Series. [Use of Medical Devices in Research](#). M.B. Rao, PhD**, professor, UC environmental health and biomedical engineering. CCHMC Location S, Room 5.125.

**May 16, 11 AM-12 PM: CCTST Special Biomedical Informatics Seminar. [Joel Saltz, MD, PhD](#)**, director, Center for Comprehensive Informatics, Emory University. See article above left.

**May 17, 11 AM-1 PM: CCTST Grand Rounds. [Bradley Pollock, MPH, PhD](#)**, chairman, epidemiology and biostatistics, UT Health Science Center San Antonio. See article above left.

**May 21, 10 AM-3 PM: Center for Environmental Genetics (CEG) Annual Pilot Project & Career Development Symposium**, Kettering Laboratory, UC College of Medicine.

**May 21, 9 AM-2 PM: Data-Driven Decision-Making**. Introduction to the OASIS and Health Landscape public web-based datasets. The Health Foundation of Greater Cincinnati, 3805 Edwards Rd. [Register online by May 14](#).

**May 23, 11 AM-12 PM: Translational Cancer Research Seminar Series. [Translating Preclinical Findings to New Childhood Cancer Treatments](#). Malcolm Smith, MD, PhD**, Cancer Therapy Evaluation Program, NCI. CCHMC Research Auditorium, 3381 Loc. R.

**June 2-4: 6th Annual CTSA Clinical Research Management Workshop, [Putting the Pieces Together](#)**. Washington DC.

**June 13-14, 9 AM-5 PM: [Sample Size Calculation with R: A Two-Day Workshop](#). Marepalli Rao, PhD**, professor, UC epidemiology and biostatistics. Kettering Laboratory, UC College of Medicine. [For-credit](#) and [non-credit](#) registration options available.

**July 15: Fall semester registration deadline for [Clinical Research Certificate Program](#)** courses at UC Blue Ash College (Aug. 26-Dec. 14). Details: [Karen King, PhD](#).

Questions or comments? [Contact us](#).

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