

## TRANSFORM Monthly Newsletter – Friday, March 13th

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### Research Day – Today!

Friday, March 13<sup>th</sup> 11:45-1:15pm

Russ Berrie – 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Conference Room

Stop by and learn about the research conducted by TRANSFORM's Scholars and Trainees.

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### TRANSFORM ANNUAL TRACKING SURVEYS

We will be asking all TRANSFORM current and former participants to submit surveys and information on-line to help us with reporting and keeping track of your progress. Be on the look-out for e-mails from TRANSFORM staff in the coming weeks. Please contact Nkemdilim at [nu2113@columbia.edu](mailto:nu2113@columbia.edu) with any questions.

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### CONFERENCES

Attention K12 Scholars!

The CTSA/ACRT Conference from April 14<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> in Washington DC is coming up . This conference will provide many educational and networking opportunities. Please view the attached flyer for more information, or visit: <http://www.acrtraining.org/annualconf.html>.

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### CELEBRATIONS

Congratulations to K12 Scholar Andrew Einstein on his published article in JACC entitled, "Breaking America's Dependence on Imported Molybdenum." (March 2009)

**\*Please share with us any good news on recent achievements, including awards, grants, and published articles.**

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### NIH FUNDING

Please read about the NIH funding available from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. Below are two website links to the information for your review:

<http://grants.nih.gov/recovery/>

[http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/challenge\\_award/](http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/challenge_award/)

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## TEACHING SEMINARS AT TC

Attention K12 Scholars! Below is information on two remaining sessions of three offered by Teachers college on teaching and learning for your review:

March 27, 3:00 - 5:00 p.m.

How to Teach Towards Real Learning Anna Neumann, Ph.D., Teachers College Aaron Pallas, Ph.D., Teachers College

This session will ask teachers to become students as they rediscover what it means to really learn subject matter. A guided discussion will allow participants to figure out ways to incorporate this subject-centered methodology into their own teaching.

<https://calendar.columbia.edu/sundial/webapi/register.php?eventID=30158>

April 24, 3 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Teaching for Understanding in an Academic Health Sciences Center

This session, which will occur after participants have had several weeks to practice the lessons learned in the first two sessions, will offer insights into how teachers can focus on student understanding - whether lecturing or teaching on the wards.

<https://calendar.columbia.edu/sundial/webapi/register.php?eventID=30159>

This event is sponsored by the Office of Faculty Professional Development and the Committee for Educator Development, a collaboration of the Center for Education Research and Evaluation, the Glenda Garvey Teaching Academy, and Graduate Medical Education.

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## CAREER DEVELOPMENT SEMINARS

The Office of Academic Affairs is pleased to announce a number of upcoming faculty development programs scheduled for March and April. You may register individually for programs using the links below. For more information, please visit our website: [www.cumc.columbia.edu/faculty](http://www.cumc.columbia.edu/faculty).

March 10th, 12 p.m. - 1 p.m. **Finding Funding 101.**

Need guidance navigating the external funding application process? This course will provide a brief overview of how to obtain research support, including information on identifying appropriate types of support and strategies for applying for funding.

Register for Finding Funding 101:

<https://calendar.columbia.edu/sundial/webapi/get.php?vt=detail&br=default&id=30847>

March 16th, 4:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. **Careers in Academic Medicine - A Networking Event for Women.** This program, co-sponsored by the Office of Student Affairs, will provide an opportunity for women medical students to connect with women faculty members to talk about the rewards and challenges of careers in academic medicine.

Register for Women in Academic Medicine:

<https://calendar.columbia.edu/sundial/webapi/get.php?vt=detail&br=default&id=30860>

March 19th, 12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. **Mentoring 101.**

Finding your way around a career in academic medicine can be confusing: balancing research, clinical, teaching, and service responsibilities (not to mention life!) while working steadfastly towards advancement. Mentors can be critical in achieving success and maintaining sanity. While some mentoring relationships are assigned and others are cultivated outside of formal programs, there are strategies for success that apply to all mentor-mentee relationships. This workshop will introduce some of these strategies, as well as provide you with materials to use in informal or formal mentoring relationships to ensure that both the mentee and the mentor make the most of their time spent together.

Register for Mentoring 101:

<https://calendar.columbia.edu/sundial/webapi/get.php?vt=detail&br=default&id=308>

March 26th, 12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. **Balancing Work & Life: Services to Support You.**

Careers in academic medicine are challenging, and working in an academic medical center can often feel as though there is little time left for family. These sessions will provide information about institutional supports that are available to you as you work to create a work-life balance.

Register for Balancing Work & Life: Services to Support You:

<https://calendar.columbia.edu/sundial/webapi/get.php?vt=detail&br=default&id=30824>

April 2nd, 12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. **Time Management 101.**

Careers in academic medicine are challenging. Properly budgeting one's time is key to reducing chaos and achieving a work-life balance. This program will provide strategies in budgeting time and establishing priorities.

Register for Time Management 101:

<https://calendar.columbia.edu/sundial/webapi/get.php?vt=detail&br=default&id=30868>

April 20th, 12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. **Strategies for Success in Clinical Career Paths.**

Faculty members at CUMC are held to the highest standards. This session will outline the necessary steps for advancement in the career tracks that do not involve tenure. This session is designed to provide information and support for those faculty members in the "prefix" and "suffix" tracks (those with the titles, "Assistant Clinical Professor of" and "Assistant Professor of Clinical"). Join academic leaders as they demystify the career advancement process at CUMC.

Register for Strategies for Success in Clinical Career Paths:

<https://calendar.columbia.edu/sundial/webapi/get.php?vt=detail&br=default&id=30870>

April 23, 12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. **Balancing Work and Life: A Panel and Discussion.**

This panel discussion will build on the March 26th presentation and will offer the opportunity to discuss the challenges of balancing work and life with several faculty members who have successfully navigated these challenges.

Register for Balancing Work and Life: A Panel and Discussion:

<https://calendar.columbia.edu/sundial/webapi/get.php?vt=detail&br=default&id=30883>

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## OFFICE OF WORK/LIFE – WORKSHOPS AND RESOURCES

Below is information provided by the Office of Work/Life that may be of interest to you:

The Office of Work/Life is pleased to invite you to our spring workshops on parenting, child care and schooling.

Please visit the following link for more details and to register for these sessions, free of charge; walk-ins are welcome, space permitting:

<http://worklife.columbia.edu/spring-2009-events>.

## EXPLORING CHILD CARE OPTIONS

Learn about early child care options in the greater New York area, including admissions processes, timelines and financial aid.

Date: Thursday, March 26

Time: 5:30-6:30 p.m.

Location: School and Child Care Search Service, 516 W. 112 St.

### **SPECIAL EVENT! MAKING IT WORK - PARENTING AND ACADEMIC CAREERS**

Tenured faculty in traditionally male fields speak about their challenges and successes in managing an academic career and parenting.

Co-sponsored by GSAS Teaching Center.

Date: Friday, April 3

Time: 12:30-2:00 p.m.

Location: Butler Library, Room 203

### **BREASTFEEDING MATTERS**

Led by a lactation consultant, this workshop will help to prepare expectant and new mothers to breastfeed their babies, particularly when they return to work or school.

Date: Monday, April 13

Time: 4:00-6:00 p.m.

Location: Alfred Lerner Hall, Room 569

### **K-5 ELEMENTARY SCHOOL: PUBLIC AND INDEPENDENT SCHOOL OPPORTUNITIES**

Learn about NYC public and independent K-5 elementary school options including admissions processes, timelines, testing and financial aid.

Date: Thursday, April 23

Time: 5:30-7:00 p.m.

Location: School and Child Care Search Service, 516 W. 112 St.

### **MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOLS: PUBLIC AND INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS OPPORTUNITIES**

Learn about NYC public and independent middle and high schools options including admissions processes, timelines, testing, and financial aid.

Date: Thursday, April 28

Time: 5:30-7:00 p.m.

Location: School and Child Care Search Service, 516 W. 112 St.

### **COLLEGE PLANNING INFORMATION**

Learn from an Admissions director about choosing, applying to and financing a college education for your child.

Date: Thursday, May 7

Time: 5:30-7:00 p.m.

Location: Alfred Lerner Hall, Broadway Room

For questions, program suggestions and comments, write us at [worklife@columbia.edu](mailto:worklife@columbia.edu).

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### **OFFICE OF POSTDOCTORAL AFFAIRS**

Below are information and a message from Dr. Kathryn Espiritu, Director of the Office of Postdoctoral Affairs (OPA), on what the OPA has accomplished within the past several months for your review:

## **Website**

<http://postdocs.columbia.edu>

[www.columbia.edu/cu/postdocs](http://www.columbia.edu/cu/postdocs)

OPA launched its new website in early January. This comprehensive site is designed for postdocs, administrators and faculty – with easy access links to other research resources at Columbia. It is a one stop shop for postdocs that covers everything from moving to New York City to Funding/Job Opportunities. The site includes an extensive events calendar that encompasses most postdoc related workshops and seminars across campuses at the University. It provides a guide for department administrators and faculty on procedures for hiring postdocs and includes sample appointment letters, postdoc related forms and other useful University resources.

The website also includes a section for departments to post open postdoc positions at Columbia. While I understand that most departments advertise open positions on their own websites, I encourage any department needing another outlet for finding a postdoc to send their posting to our office ([postdocaffairs@columbia.edu](mailto:postdocaffairs@columbia.edu)). Please note that the original url to the OPA website still works and I have arranged for it to permanently redirect to the new website.

## **Postdoctoral Officers Handbook**

In addition to the website, OPA has written a new Postdoctoral Officers Handbook as an additional resource for postdocs, administrators and faculty. It provides information about, for example, housing, visas and benefits, to assist with postdocs' initial transition to Columbia and, in many cases, New York City. It also contains valuable information about getting around campus, research offices at Columbia, and pertinent University policies. In an attempt to be environmentally conscious, limited hard copies were printed. In the upcoming weeks I will be sending hard copies to each departmental administrator and chair so that there will be some paper copies available for reference in each unit. A full .PDF version is currently available on the OPA website and can be accessed at this link:

<http://postdocs.columbia.edu/documents/2009PostdoctoralOfficersHandbook.pdf>.

I encourage departments to include the above link along with the link for the OPA website in their appointment letters so that I will be able to work with you in making a postdoc's transition to Columbia as smooth as possible. If you would like additional hard copies, please contact me at [postdocaffairs@columbia.edu](mailto:postdocaffairs@columbia.edu) and I will send them to you as long as copies remain.

I would like to thank everyone who assisted me in the completion of these projects. As OPA continues to develop and grow as a source of support for postdocs at Columbia, I welcome and encourage any feedback.

-From Dr. Kathryn Espiritu, Director of Office of Postdoctoral Affairs

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## **Irving Institute Nanotechnology Seminar Series**

\*\*Please RSVP to Michelle McClave at [mm3098@columbia.edu](mailto:mm3098@columbia.edu). All seminars will be held in the Irving Institute Conference Room (Ph-10-204)

**Monday, April 6, 2009 – 12:00 – 1:00p**

Vertically Aligned Carbon Nanofiber Arrays for Neuroscience

*Barclay Morrison, Ph.D.*

*Associate Professor, Biomedical Engineering*

**Monday, May 4, 2009 – 12:00 – 1:00p**

DNA Computing and Robotics, Basic Principles and Potential Applications

*Milan N. Stojanovic, Ph.D.*

*Assistant Professor, Nephrology*

**Monday, June 1, 2009 – 12:00 – 1:00p**

State-of-the-Art Nanotechnology and Potential Clinical Applications –

A Panel Discussion with Nanotechnology Firm Representatives

*Misti Ushio, Ph.D.*

*Vice President and Associate*

*Harris & Harris Group*

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**ARTICLES**

Attached is an article from the American Heart Association entitled, "Funding Opportunities for Investigators in the Early Stages of Career Development" for your review. The article was shared by K12 Scholar, Andrew Einstein.

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Below is an article and monograph from Dr. Robert Rose for your review:

**Overcoming Disciplinary Boundaries Through Research Networks**

**A Guide to Conceiving, Organizing, Implementing and Monitoring Interdisciplinary Research Networks** (Website LINK - please click on underlined title to connect to monograph)

Knowledge of real world problems can rarely be grasped through the lens of a single discipline. We can gather and carefully blend the range of perspectives necessary to truly understand complex social and natural phenomena through appropriately constituted interdisciplinary research networks.

Launching, supporting, and nurturing interdisciplinary networks is a complicated task. Fortunately, there are several highly successful models for helping research networks thrive. The strategies discussed in this **monograph** have proven useful to a broaden range of collaborations, where it is important to integrate multiple, diverse perspectives. The monograph is intended to provide foundation and institutional leaders with a blueprint that can lead to the successful initiation of new networks that will enable potentially powerful and exciting new work.

**About the Author:** Robert M. Rose, MD has worked as a funder, researcher, and interdisciplinary network leader. He has made a career of engaging diverse research and funding partners in interdisciplinary collaborations. Dr. Rose is now available to consult with foundations and research partners on how best to strengthen and nurture their interdisciplinary initiatives.

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Below is a link to an article from CTSciNet, entitled, "Perspective: Problem Finding and the Multidisciplinary Mind" by Linda Austin, for your review:

[http://sciencecareers.sciencemag.org/career\\_magazine/previous\\_issues/articles/2009\\_02\\_20/caredit.a0900024](http://sciencecareers.sciencemag.org/career_magazine/previous_issues/articles/2009_02_20/caredit.a0900024)

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#### CTSA Citation Link

Please refer to this link below to properly cite CTSA in your research work:

<http://irvinginstitute.columbia.edu/research/publications.html>

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*(Distribution – you have received this monthly newsletter based on your current or former participation in a TRANSFORM program. Please e-mail Nkemdilim Ukwu at [nu2113@columbia.edu](mailto:nu2113@columbia.edu) if you would like to be removed from this distribution list.)*