



THE CMBB QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

Issue 5, January 2000

CMBB STAFF:

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Ms. Bobby Rosenfeld, Program Analyst
Dr. Lawrence Alfred, Expert Consultant
Ms. LaShell Gaskins, Secretary

HAPPY NEW MILLENIUM!! From our office to you, we hope you had a wonderful holiday season and the new year (millenium) brings good things to you. Now it's back to work.

WE'VE MOVED! Our office has moved to a new location. Our new address is:

**6116 Executive Boulevard
Suite 7008, MSC 8347
Rockville, Maryland 20892**

Phone number, fax number and e-mail addresses remain the same.

We would like to welcome Dr. Lawrence Alfred to our staff. He joins us as an Expert Consultant. Dr. Alfred has relocated from San Diego, California and is a great addition to our staff. Dr. Alfred will be directing the new MICCP Initiative.

MINORITY SERVING INSTITUTION/ CANCER CENTER PARTNERSHIP

The concept for this initiative was approved at the last Board of Scientific Advisors meeting and the Request for Applications

(RFA) will be published in the NIH Guide in April 2000. Applications will be due in July 2000. The purpose of this RFA is to support the planning and/or implementation of partnerships between Minority Serving Institutions and NCI-designated Cancer Centers. Applications would be submitted in one of two ways: As **Planning Grants (P20s)** for the development of partnerships or as full partnerships supported by the **Specialized Center-Cooperative Agreement (U54)**.

The **P20s** will support an **administrative core** activity (no more than 20% of total) and a **developmental fund** for conducting workshops and retreats designed to identify areas of greatest opportunity for research.

The **U54s** will provide support for an **administrative core** activity (not to exceed 20% of the total grant award); **planning and evaluation** activities that may include the costs for outside advisors, workshops, retreats and the Steering Committee; and **developmental funds** for pilot projects/ programs in research, research training, outreach and education; **up to three full projects** per year in research, research

training, outreach and education; **specialized infrastructure** critical to the needs of the programs established by the partnership; and a **steering committee** consisting of outside advisors, MSI representatives, Cancer Center representatives, and staff from the NCI and ORMH.

A pre-submission workshop will be held sometime before the end of February 2000 to further discuss this initiative.

WORLD WIDE WEB

Rome wasn't built in a day - and neither is our web site. Temporarily, however, we can be found at [HTTP://DEAINFO.NCI.NIH.GOV/CMBS/INDEX.HTM](http://deainfo.nci.nih.gov/cmbs/index.htm). As soon as our permanent site is up and running, we'll let you know.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP

Mark your calendars for **May 1-4, 2000**. We've already started planning for this year's bigger and better workshop. Invitation letters will be in the mail soon. Your early response is appreciated. Once again, the Scientific Consulting Group, Inc. (SCG) will be handling all of the logistics, so we know all will go just fine.

Our postdoctoral and junior faculty supplement holders and mentors, as well as our career development award recipients will be receiving invitation letters in the next couple of months. However, if you've already attended two of our previous workshops, don't look for an invitation. It's time to give others a chance to gain the experience.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR MENTORED CAREER

DEVELOPMENT AWARD RECIPIENT

Dr. Maria E. Cardenas has had a very productive year, resulting in six major publications. One has been accepted with very complementary reviews by the prestigious journal Genes & Development.

She is now planning to start work on her submission of an R01 grant.

Congratulations to **Maria Cardenas, Irma Sanchez, Carlos de los Santos, Juan Melendez, Cecilia Whitacre, and Miguel Villalona**. As part of the Peer Review Activities associated with their K01 grants, they will be participating as ad hoc reviewers for the Manpower and Training Review Subcommittee at their March and June 2000 review committee meetings.

Because of the delay in getting our budget for FY 2000, our new K01 awards were delayed. Now that the budget has been passed, we'd like to congratulate our latest Mentored Career Development Awardees, **Selwyn Vickers** from the University of Alabama at Birmingham, **Miguel Berrios** from the State University of New York at Stony Brook, and **Charles Belfi** from Case Western Reserve University.

NCI MARC SUMMER TRAINING PROGRAM

Once again, NCI is participating in the MARC Summer Training Program. Invitation letters have gone out to all of the MARC Program Directors explaining the application procedures. Junior and Senior MARC Scholars are eligible to spend a 10 week summer training experience at one of our NCI

laboratories. For more information, please e-mail Ms. Bobby Rosenfeld at rr63v@nih.gov.

PREDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP AWARDS

Congratulations to **Gary Ellison**, one of our F31 recipients. Gary completed his fellowship early from the University of South Carolina and has received an appointment as a researcher with Howard University to work on the Human Genome Project.

BULLETIN BOARD

Dr. Alexander Asea, one of our new K01 applicants, advises that the Department of Adult Oncology at the Dana Farber Cancer Institute is organizing a conference entitled "International Symposium on Heat Shock Proteins in Biology and Medicine" to be held at the Marine Biology Laboratory in Woods Hole, MA on November 6-8, 2000. There will be sessions on Heat Shock Response and Regulation of HSP Expression, HSP in Inflammation and Immunity, HSP in Cancer and Immunotherapy, HSP in Autoimmunity and Infectious Diseases, and HSP in Vascular and Cardiovascular Disease.

Two travel awards for minority investigators interested in attending this meeting have been put aside. For further information on the meeting and/or the travel award, contact Dr. Asea by e-mail at: alexzander_asea@dfci.harvard.edu.

We received a very nice letter from Mia Latanya Barron, one of our undergraduate CURE supplement recipients. Latanya is a research

assistant in the laboratory of Dr. Barbara Powe at the College of Nursing, Colorectal Cancer Education Project, Medical College of South Carolina. The letter is quoted below.

"My name is Mia Latanya Barron. I am a research assistant on Colorectal Cancer Education Project (Grant #....; Dr. Barbara D. Powe, PI). My position is supported through the CURE Supplemental Program. I am writing to express my appreciation for the opportunity to work on this project as part of the CURE program. I can't begin to tell you how much I have learned while working on this project. I have the opportunity to interact with study participants on a regular basis, interview participants, and participate in the intervention phase of the study. Dr. Powe and I meet weekly and I have the opportunity to discuss what I have learned each week as well as my thoughts, opinions and questions. These activities have been very beneficial in helping me to develop better communication and critical thinking skills. In addition, I have been involved in the writing process and performing literature reviews as Dr. Powe prepares manuscripts for publication. These activities have helped me to develop better writing and critical synthesis skills.

I commend Dr. Powe for being my mentor but most importantly, for being my role model and friend. She is an exceptional mentor and researcher who makes learning the material easier and fun! Dr. Powe has become a motivating factor in my educational experience and in my personal growth. In fact, I was able to accompany her to Milwaukee, WI to a conference in which she presented information on colorectal cancer and her

research. I also had the opportunity to participate on a student panel to discuss research and teaching / learning methods during this conference. While I was somewhat nervous, I gained more confidence and more determination to learn more about research.

In summary, as a research assistant, I have a much broader understanding and appreciation of the research process. I am grateful that this opportunity came during my undergraduate program because it helped me to establish a foundation for nursing research that goes well beyond what I would gain from a 3-hour didactic course. Personally, I believe that if more students were research assistants at the undergraduate level, their potential, motivation, and understanding of the research process would increase tremendously. I have even started thinking of additional areas for potential research within my own community! All of this is possible because of the CURE program. Thank you!

Sincerely,

Mia Latanya Barron

Barbara D. Powe, PhD, RN

AACR

The deadline for applications for the AACR Minority Scholar Awards in Cancer Research and the AACR-HBCU Faculty Award in Cancer Research, both awards sponsored by this office, has passed. But, we are looking forward to seeing many of you at the meeting in San Francisco in April.

For more information about the AACR

be sure to check their web page at www.aacr.org.

PERSONAL DATA SHEETS

To those of you who have not yet sent in your PERSONAL DATA SHEETS, please do so. The information is needed so that we can create a meaningful database of all our Minority Supplement recipients. A copy is attached. Just complete it and fax it to Dr. Eric Bailey at 301-402-4551.