

ITMAT Symposium for Early Career Investigators, Wednesday, July 27, Biomedical Research Building II/III, 421 Curie Boulevard, Philadelphia

Breakout Sessions:

K Awards: All you need to know (offered in Session 1 and Session 2):

Panelists: *Steve Albelda, MD, William Maul Measey Professor of Medicine, Vice Chief, Pulmonary, Allergy and Critical Care Division, Director of Lung Research*
Karen Teff, PhD, Member, Monell Chemical Senses Center; Director, Translational Research, Institute for Diabetes, Obesity and Metabolism; Associate Director, Master's in Translational Research; and Co-Program Director, Clinical and Translational Research Center

Receiving a K Award is often the first step towards becoming an independent investigator, particularly for physician-scientists. We will discuss when you should apply, the different types of K awards, the components of the grant, criteria for review and how to respond to the first set of criticisms.

R Awards (offered in Session 1 and Session 2):

Panelists: *Charles S. Abrams, MD, Professor of Medicine, Associate Chief, Hematology-Oncology, Co-Director & Scientific Director, Blood Center at PENN/CHOP*
Janis K. Burkhardt, PhD, Associate Professor of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine

R awards (R01, R21, and R03) are the mainstays of an NIH-funded research program, and obtaining the first R01 is frequently a top priority for a new investigator. We will discuss the different types of R awards, when to apply, their components of the grant and the effect of the new shorter format, the review process, and how to handle critiques and resubmissions.

Balancing Family and Career (offered in Session 1 and Session 2):

Panelists: *Sarah Millar, PhD, Professor of Dermatology and Cell and Developmental Biology, Director of Research, Department of Dermatology, and Chair, Developmental, Stem Cell and Regenerative Biology Program of CAMB; Martin Carroll, MD, Associate Professor of Medicine*

You have been successful in training and are now about to launch your career as an independent investigator, but also have, or want to have, kids. How do you and your spouse go about finding jobs in the same institution or geographical area? How do you determine whether a hiring institution is respectful and supportive of life balance issues? Is it a good idea to delay raising a family until you are an established investigator? How much maternity / paternity leave should you take? Will you be penalized for taking advantage of the "extra year before promotion" that some institutions promise? How to

choose childcare: daycare centers and after school programs versus nannies? How do you manage a weekly schedule that combines science with school plays, soccer matches and swim meets? How do you prioritize family time during weekends and vacations? What will you do when your elderly parents need care? We will discuss these questions and more – please bring your concerns and ideas!

How to Negotiate a Job in Academics (for MDs) (Session 1 only):

Panelists: *David Roth, MD, PhD, Chairman, Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, Jeffrey A. Drebin, MD, PhD, The John Rhea Barton Professor and Chairman Department of Surgery*

You have worked hard and earned an MD, or perhaps a combined MD/PhD degree. You have been through many transitions - college to graduate or medical school, medical school to residency, residency to fellowship.... and now you approach what may be the most critical transition of all: from fellow to faculty member. But what kind of job do you want? What mix of clinical and research activities will serve you best? What are the critical factors you should keep in mind while applying and interviewing? How do you identify an environment that contributes to your success? The panel for this session includes two clinical Department Chairs who have recruited, hired, and mentored many successful academic physicians.

How to Negotiate a Job in Industry (Session 1 only):

Panelist: *Tauseef R. Butt PhD, President and CEO, Progenra Inc.*

The health science industry is undergoing a major change. As large pharmaceutical companies are cutting R & D budgets to become more efficient, people with innovative ideas are in great demand. If you seek a career in industry, it is best to learn as much as possible about the strategic goals of your potential employer. If you like structure and process, think about joining a large pharmaceutical company. If you prefer a fast paced innovative environment, then a biotech company may suit your style. If you love to take risks and innovate, then jump into a startup company. The pros and cons of various opportunities in industry will be the topic this discussion.

How to Set up a Lab (Session 1 only):

Panelists: *M. Celeste Simon, PhD, Scientific Director and Investigator, Abramson Family Cancer Research Institute Investigator, Howard Hughes Medical Institute Professor, Cell and Developmental Biology, Roger A. Greenberg, MD, PhD, Assistant Professor of Cancer Biology*

This session will provide an overview of what it takes for junior investigators to set up their own lab when they begin an independent faculty position. We will discuss the strategies for equipping a lab, applying for new investigator grants, and hiring technicians, postdocs, and students. Additional topics will include appropriation of time and resources, setting up collaborations, and establishing an independent research program. There will be ample time for Q&A during this session.

Non-NIH Funding (non-profits and industry) (Session 2 only):

Panelists: *Daniel J. Rader, MD, Edward S. Cooper, MD and Norman and Elizabeth McLure Professor of Medicine and Pharmacology, Associate Director, Institute for Translational Medicine and Therapeutics and Ronald C. Rubenstein, Associate Professor of Pediatrics, Director, Cystic Fibrosis Center, The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia*

There are a wide range of grant funding opportunities through non-profit organizations and industry, and these serve as an important starting point for many young investigators who are trying to establish research programs. Often these funding sources are less well understood or publicized than Federal grant offerings. We will discuss our experiences in successfully obtaining funding from non-profit entities and industry. Two of the most important aspects of writing a foundation grant application are to 1) know what the institution is looking for, and 2) understand who will be evaluating your proposal. After that, you must do the same things you do in writing any grant proposal: be concise, clear, and develop your proposal in a logical manner.

The Art and Science of Publishing (Session 2 only):

Panelists: *Anil K. Rustgi, M.D., Division Chief, T. Grier Miller Professor of Medicine, Chief, Division of Gastroenterology, and Morris J. Birnbaum, MD, PhD, Ware Professor of Diabetes and Metabolic Diseases Assoc. Dean for Research Core Facilities Division of Endocrinology, Diabetes & Metabolism*

This session will be devoted to the principles and practice of manuscript preparation and writing, manuscript submission to a peer-reviewed journal and understanding the journal review process. There will also be discussion devoted to journal decision letters and the process of resubmission, and understanding the review process.

How to Negotiate a Job in Academics (for PhDs) (Session 2 only):

Panelists: *Robert W. Doms, M.D., Ph.D., Chair, Department of Microbiology and Mark A. Lemmon, Professor of Biochemistry and Biophysics, Chair, Department of Biochemistry and Biophysics*

There are many issues to consider when negotiating for a starting faculty position: space, teaching responsibilities, start-up packages both with regards to size and structure, salary recovery expectations and mentoring. In addition, if you are fortunate enough to have more than one pending job offer, there are things to consider in evaluating different institutions that can impact your chances for success: graduate program structure and graduate student cost, availability of training grants and core facilities, quality of the technician pool, ability to recruit postdocs to your new location. We will touch on all of these topics, and answer any questions you might have.