

HEALTH RESEARCH ALLIANCE MEMBERS' MEETING

November 15-16, 2018



Sponsored by the Burroughs Wellcome Fund and the V Foundation for Cancer Research

All sessions will be held in the Presidents Ballroom of the Washington Duke Inn in Durham, NC

November 15 | Thursday

10:30 - 11:00AM
(30min)

Welcome to the Members' Meeting

HRA Board Chair

Steve Rose, PhD

Chief Science Officer | Foundation Fighting Blindness

Program Committee Co-Chair

Sindy Escobar-Alvarez, PhD

Senior Program Officer for Medical Research | Doris Duke Charitable Foundation

HRA Website Update

Cecilia Arradaza

Communications Consultant

11:00AM - 12:30PM
(90min)

Measuring Funding Impact Through Grantee Outputs

Measuring the impact of a non-profit organization's grants program can be a difficult, and sometimes ambiguous, process. For example, answering a seemingly simple question like, "how successful are we at accomplishing our mission?", typically results in more questions than definitive or tangible answers. One approach to gauging organizational success is to measure the success of grant recipients that result from an organization's support. This session will explore how to connect grantees to landmark discoveries in their particular field based on outputs collected from progress reports. In addition, we will look at ways to examine these outputs, either individually or in aggregate, to more broadly evaluate the health and success of a grants program. Lastly, we will discuss why these data are important and how they can be leveraged for communications to stakeholders, donors, and the public will be discussed.

Moderator

Carole Wegner, PhD

VP, Research and Grants Administration | The V Foundation for Cancer Research

Presenters

Samuel Thomas

Chief Technology Officer and Project Manager | Rose Li and Associates

Natalia Volfovsky, PhD

Director, Data and Analytics | Simons Foundation

Alycia Halladay, PhD

Chief Science Officer | Autism Science Foundation

12:30 – 2:00 PM
(90min)

LUNCH: (separate networking lunch area provided)

FIRST Group Update

This session will provide context for and discuss recent activities aimed at building effective working relationships between funders and universities. We will report on topics addressed at both the May 16th and November 7th Nonprofit Funder - Research Institution Partnership Workshops. We will discuss next steps for the effort in general and the three different workstreams: Streamlining Reporting Requirements, Intellectual Property, and Indirect Costs. Those who led the sessions at the workshops and are continuing to engage with universities will lead the discussions.

Moderator and Setting the Stage

Jackie Hausman

Program Officer | Kenneth Rainin Foundation

Presenters

Background

Heather Snyder, PhD

Senior Director, Medical & Scientific Relations | Alzheimer's Association

Jim Luther, PhD

Associate VP Finance & Compliance Officer | Duke University

Streamlining

Andrew Smith, PhD

Manager, Scientific Review | Susan G. Komen

Calvin Ho, PhD

Science Project Coordinator | Tuberous Sclerosis Alliance

IP/Tech Transfer

Amy Laster, PhD

Senior Director, Grants and Award Programs | Foundation Fighting Blindness

Research Project Support Costs

Heather Snyder, PhD

Senior Director, Medical & Scientific Relations | Alzheimer's Association

Jim Luther, PhD

Associate VP Finance & Compliance Officer | Duke University

Diane Bovenkamp, PhD

Vice President of Scientific Affairs | BrightFocus Foundation

2:00 - 2:30 PM
(30min)

Break

November 15 | Thursday (continued)

2:30 - 4:00PM
(90min)

Peer Review Under the Microscope: From Best Practices to Current Challenges

Scientific peer review has long been the gold standard for evaluating grant applications, but different organizations implement peer review in different ways. In addition, issues like unconscious bias and data reproducibility has brought these processes under greater scrutiny. This session will focus on peer review best practices that are informed by studies on the science of peer review.

Moderator

Diane Bovenkamp, PhD

Vice President of Scientific Affairs | BrightFocus Foundation

Presenters

Stephen Gallo, PhD

Chief Scientist | American Institute of Biological Sciences

Lucy Liaw, PhD

Director, Research Training Programs | Maine Medical Center Research Institute

Richard Nakamura, PhD

Former Director (2011-2018) | Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health

4:00 - 4:15 PM
(15min)

Break

4:15 - 5:15 PM
(60min)

Highlighting our Sponsors

Moderator

Maryrose Franko, PhD

Executive Director | Health Research Alliance

Presenters

John Burris, PhD

President | Burroughs Wellcome Fund

Susan Braun

Chief Executive Officer | V Foundation for Cancer Research

6:30 - ?

Reception With Heavy Hors D'Oeuvres at the Burroughs Wellcome Fund

(roundtrip transportation between the hotel and BWF will be provided)

November 16 | Friday

8:15 - 9:45 AM
(90min)

BREAKFAST: BREAKOUTS & NETWORKING

10:15 - 10:45 AM
(30min)

HRA News and Updates

HRA Board Chair

Steve Rose, PhD

Chief Science Officer | Foundation Fighting Blindness

Executive Director

Maryrose Franko, PhD

Executive Director | Health Research Alliance

10:45 - 12:15 PM
(90min)

Implementing New Ways to Model Human Disease for More Effective Drug Discovery

The cost of drug R&D makes up the bulk of the cost of prescription drugs because consumers not only pay for the medicines they are prescribed, but also for all the ostensibly promising agents emerging for the laboratory only to fail in clinical trials. The preclinical drug discovery and testing phases are filled with challenges and have a poor success rate especially in certain disease without good preclinical models.

This session will explore ways to change the drug discovery paradigm with novel strategies such as machine learning and other technologies which are expected to make the drug discovery quicker, cheaper and more effective.

Moderator

Sindy Escobar-Alvarez, PhD

Senior Program Officer for Medical Research | Doris Duke Charitable Foundation

Presenters

Sara Omlid, PhD

Partnering Executive | Atomwise, Inc

Paul Macklin, PhD

Associate Professor | Intelligent Systems Engineering, Indiana University

Scott Noggle, PhD

Senior Vice President, Research | New York Stem Cell Foundation Research Institute

12:15 - 1:45 PM
(90min)

LUNCH: BREAKOUTS & NETWORKING

1:45 - 3:15 PM
(90min)

Stronger Together: How Collaboration Can Lead to Greater Impact

Collaboration is often the key to scientific success, bringing together individuals with different expertise and skills to advance the field. This type of teamwork can also elevate and improve the efforts of biomedical research grant makers, bringing organizations together toward a common mission. This session will begin with an introduction to HRA's new "Collaboration Program" that aims to enhance the collaborative behaviors of HRA members. The program's key activity is a workshop on May 1-2, 2019. Then HRA member organizations will present examples of successful collaborations; one between an HRA member and the public sector and one between two HRA members, that serve to not only provide crucial resources to the research community, but also to advance scientific knowledge and patient care. Members will share their stories on how these collaborations were forged, how working with other organizations contributes to and improves their mission-driven work, and what they hope to accomplish from establishing such symbiotic relationships.

Moderator

Nicole Burpo

Manager, Focused Research | American Heart Association

Presenters

Maryrose Franko, PhD

Executive Director | Health Research Alliance

Shannon Gallagher-Colombo, PhD

Assistant Director | AACR Foundation

Kristen Mueller, PhD

Scientific Program Director | Melanoma Research Alliance

Joe Cotter

Research Constituent Engagement Manager | American Cancer Society

3:15-3:30PM
(15min)

Closing remarks