$56.8 Million for Clinical and Translational Research

With the annual USC grant, a consortium of 15 academic health centers in 20 states and the District of Columbia that are developing new ways to advance medical research to treat and manage complex conditions, including cancer, severe neurologic disorders, and infectious diseases.

Funded through Clinical and Translational Science Awards, consortium members share a common vision to reduce the time it takes for laboratory discoveries to become treatments for patients, to engage communities in clinical research efforts and to train clinical researchers.

“This very competitive process got started at this level. We’re excited to have this opportunity to be in a clinical research program. Department, schools and institutions together to make healthier communities,” said Thomas A. Buchanan, M.D., principal investigator and director of the CTSI. He is also associate dean for clinical research at the Keck School of Medicine of USC.

“With the CTSI grant, we’ll be able to build relationships with other academic institutions, academic Partners and to impact patients’ health,” Buchanan said.

Elected Officials

Social Services

Kaiser Permanente of Southern California

University of Southern California

academic Partners

USC School of Social Work

USC Gould School of Law

Herman Ostrow School of Dentistry of USC

Hume Foundation

Children’s Hospital Los Angeles

Southwestern Medical Center

Science Center at Houston

University of Arkansas

University of Chicago

and Translational Research

Melluci Master remember, what makes this CTSI distinct is the unique patient demography it serves.

“We are trying to support a breadth of health center care, we have a focus on transcultural care to better understand populations, specifically highly urbanized communities that are often not served in other centers,” said Michele Kipke, continued on page 10.

$56.8 Million for Clinical and Translational Research

Clinician—Nurturing the Pathway to Health

Putting Urban Health First

Continued from page 1

Dedication — an activity invested in the institute. The CTSI will provide a variety of resources and services that will support translatable research and translate to clinical care.

The second goal of the CTSI is to develop core translational training and career support programs. Using principles aligned with the Keck School of Medicine strategic plan and the healthcare needs of the surrounding community, the institute will identify and provide a portfolio of educational opportunities for community leaders, clinical and translational researchers.

Some interdisciplinary projects are already under way. For example, leveraging skills from the health sciences, engineering, social sciences, and humanities, faculty members recently developed an interdisciplinary course that helps patients with diabetes better understand their treatment regimens.

“We’re not only developing translational projects, but also improving ways scientists and health care systems would typically do to achieve our goals,” said Carlos Pato, M.D., principal investigator and director of the Keck School of Medicine strategic plan and the health needs of the surrounding community. The institute will identify and provide a portfolio of educational opportunities for community leaders, clinical and translational researchers.

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Putting Urban Health First

Jennifer M. Sauer, M.D., M.A.; Pauline Leclerc, M.D.; and Edward Gomperts, M.D., M.A., have developed a new research tool that measures individual- and group-level health outcomes in neighborhoods exposed to environmental hazards. They have identified the following new translational projects as potential areas for research:

1) **Health Problem:** The disparities in health outcomes between children with sickle cell disease in Los Angeles and patients elsewhere.

   **Opportunity:** To identify a drug target that could enhance treatment for patients with sickle cell disease in Los Angeles.

2) **Health Problem:** The disparities in health outcomes between children with obesity and leukemia.

   **Opportunity:** To understand why overweight children respond less favorably to leukemia treatment than non-overweight children.

3) **Health Problem:** The disparities in health outcomes between children with asthma and patients with sickle cell disease in Los Angeles.

   **Opportunity:** To identify the barriers to high-quality care for patients with sickle cell disease in Los Angeles.

4) **Health Problem:** The relationship between air pollution and the prevalence of chronic diseases in urban communities.

   **Opportunity:** To assess the impact of local policies on the distribution of PM2.5 concentrations in different communities.

5) **Health Problem:** The disparities in health outcomes between children with sickle cell disease in Los Angeles and patients elsewhere.

   **Opportunity:** To improve access to care by providing policy makers with information on how to reduce the barriers to care.

6) **Health Problem:** The disparities in health outcomes between children with asthma and patients with sickle cell disease in Los Angeles.

   **Opportunity:** To identify the barriers to high-quality care for patients with sickle cell disease in Los Angeles.
Putting Urban Health First

Continued from page 1

1) HEALTH PROBLEM: Racial disparities between childhood obesity and trauma.

Opportunity: To identify the barriers to high-quality care for patients with sickle cell disease in Los Angeles.

2) TRANSLATIONAL GOAL: To identify a drug target that could enhance the effectiveness of low-dose therapy for overweight children.

3) REGULATORY KNOWLEDGE AND SUPPORT PROGRAM

Director — Francis Richardson, Ph.D., professor of Clinical Pharmacology and Pharmaceutical Economics, School of Pharmacy, and Anatomy, Clinical and Rhythmic Sciences, Alfred E. Mann Institute for Biomedical Engineering, at USC

Co-Director — Richard Clark, Ph.D., professor of Behavioral Psychology and Pharmaceutical Sciences, Biomedical Engineering and Systems, School of Pharmacy

Co-Director — Paul Thomas, Ph.D., professor of Industrial and Systems Engineering, USC Viterbi School of Engineering

Stephen G. Whiteman, M.D., assistant professor of Pediatrics and Molecular Microbiology and Immunology, Keck School, and CHLA

Research Scientist — Emil Bogenmann, Ph.D., assistant professor of Pharmacy, Biokinesiology, and Health Promotion, Keck School, and CHLA

Director — Karen Coleman, Ph.D., assistant professor, USC School of Pharmacy

Co-Director — Scott H. Bice Chair in Healthcare Law, Policy and Ethics, director of the Center for Biomedical Ethics, and School of Public Health, director of the Zilkha Neurogenetic Research Program and co-director of the Biomedical Ethics Research Institute, School of Medicine

Co-Director — Eduardo Guerrieri, M.D., professor of Pediatrics and Pharmacology, Keck School, and director of Clinical Research, CHLA

Center for Biomedical Information Sciences

Director — Carl Koneshan, Ph.D., professor of Industrial and Systems Engineering, USC Viterbi School of Engineering

Co-Director — Paul Thomas, Ph.D., professor of Industrial and Systems Engineering, USC Viterbi School of Engineering

To understand why overweight children respond differently to medical treatment than overweight children.

Co-Director — Richard Clark, Ph.D., professor of Behavioral Psychology and Pharmaceutical Sciences, Biomedical Engineering and Systems, School of Pharmacy

Center for Scientific Translation

Director — Roberto De Cecco, Ph.D., professor of Pediatrics and Preventive Medicine, Keck School, and CHLA

Co-Director — Karen Coleman, Ph.D., research scientist, Kaiser Southern California

Co-Director — Roberta DeCock, Ph.D., associate professor, USC School of Social Work

Center for Community Engagement

Director — Malcolm Kyle, Ph.D., professor of Pediatrics and Preventive Medicine, Keck School, and CHLA

Office of Research Development

Director — Carlos Perd, Ph.D., Francis Alexander Professor and chair of Psychiatry, Keck School

Co-Director — Susan Jacobson, M.D., Ph.D., director of Research and Evaluation, Kaiser Permanente

Co-Director — Pat Levine, Ph.D., Professor of Neurosciences, Psychiatry and Pharmacy, director of the Zilkha Neurogenetic Research Institute, and chair of the Department of Cell and Neurobiology, Keck School

Co-Director — Malak Zadeh, Ph.D., media expert in psychiatry, Keck School

Principal Investigator and CTSI Director

Director — Thomas A. Buchanan, M.D., professor of Medicine and chief of the Division of Endocrinology and Diabetes, chair of Medicine and chief of the Division of Endocrinology and Diabetes, chair of Medicine

Co-Director — Steven Jacobson, M.D., Ph.D., professor of Pediatrics, Keck School

Associate CTSI Directors

> Malcolm Kyle, Ph.D., professor of Pediatrics and Preventive Medicine, Keck School, and CHLA

> Carlos Perd, Ph.D., Francis Alexander Professor and chair of Psychiatry, Keck School

> Kathleen Edel, D.V.M., professor of Medicine and chief of the Division of Endocrinology and Diabetes, chair of Medicine

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Jonathan M. Samet, M.D., M.S.
Frances Richmond, Ph.D.
Alexander Capron, LL.B.

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Co-Director — Paul Thomas, Ph.D., professor of Industrial and Systems Engineering, USC Viterbi School of Engineering

Regulatory Knowledge and Support Program

Director — Frances Richardson, Ph.D., professor of Clinical Pharmacology and Pharmaceutical Economics, School of Pharmacy, and Anatomy, Clinical and Rhythmic Sciences, Alfred E. Mann Institute for Biomedical Engineering, at USC

Research Ethics Program

Director — Alexander Cayce, L.L.B., University Professor, Scott M. Keesee Chair in Bioethics, Policy and Ethics, USC School of Law and Keck School

Putting Urban Health First

continued from page 1

Director — Jonathan M. Samet, M.D., M.P.H., professor and Heart Failure, Thoracic Clinic, Department of Preventive Medicine, Keck School

Co-Director — Sherry Ani, Ph.D., professor and director, Research, Department of Preventive Medicine, Keck School

Co-Director — Todd Engstrom, M.D., professor of Pediatrics and Molecular Microbiology and Immunology, Keck School, and CHLA

Co-Director — Richard Clark, Ph.D., professor of Educational Psychology and Technology, USC Keck School of Education

Potential areas of focus within the health sciences.

Co-Director — Karen Coleman, Ph.D., assistant professor, USC School of Pharmacy

Co-Director — Roberta DeCock, Ph.D., associate professor of Pediatrics and Molecular Microbiology and Immunology, Keck School, and CHLA

Co-Director — Paul Thomas, Ph.D., professor of Industrial and Systems Engineering, USC Viterbi School of Engineering

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Co-Director — Kathleen Edel, D.V.M., professor of Medicine and chief of the Division of Endocrinology and Diabetes, chair of Medicine

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Center for Scientific Translation

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Co-Director — Karen Coleman, Ph.D., research scientist, Kaiser Southern California

Co-Director — Kathleen Edel, D.V.M., professor of Medicine and chief of the Division of Endocrinology and Diabetes, chair of Medicine

Staff member Marina Piotrowski with patient Joanne Douthat during an oral glucose tolerance test. Rodriguez volunteered to participate in a clinical trial to help researchers increase their understanding of diabetes.
Putting Urban Health First
continues on page 3

3) Health Problem: The relationship between air pollution and the prevalence of chronic diseases in urban communities.
   - Opportunity: To develop technology that assesses individual ozone exposure.
   - Translational Goal: To identify a drug target that could enhance the effectiveness of current therapies.
   - Regulatory and Support Program: To improve access to care by providing policy makers with information on how to reduce the barriers to care.

REGULATORY KNOWLEDGE AND SUPPORT PROGRAM
Director — Kimberly Williams, Ph.D., professor of Clinical Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Economics, School of Pharmacy, and director of Clinical Research, Otsuka America Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

RESEARCH ENSYS PROGRAM
Director — Alexander Capurro, L.L.B., University Professor, Scott M. Fisz Biomedical Law, Policy and Ethics, USC School of Law and Keck School of Medicine

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ASSOCIATE CTSI DIRECTORS
> Michele Kipke, Ph.D., professor of Pediatrics and Preventive Medicine, Keck School, and Children's Hospital Los Angeles (CHLA)
> Carla Pan, M.D., Pierre Alexandre Professor and chair of Psychiatry, Keck School

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> Co-Director — Andy Chun, Ph.D., associate professor of Industrial and Systems Engineering, USC Viterbi School of Engineering

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RESEARCH ENSYS PROGRAM
Director — Alexander Capan, L.L.B., University Professor, Scott M. Fisz Biomedical Law, Policy and Ethics, USC School of Law and Keck School

Taking an oral glucose tolerance test. Rodriguez volunteered to participate in a new research tool that measures individual risks for diabetes in Mexican Americans. Photo by Phillip Diagram.

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Kaiser Permanente Southern California
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Michael Kanter
Marvin SoutHard
AvishaI Sadan
Mental Health
Paul Thomas, Ph.D.
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Karen Coleman, Ph.D.
Richard Hull, Ph.D.
$56.8 Million for Clinical and Translational Research

The Keck School of Medicine of the University of Southern California has received a prestigious $56.8 million Clinical and Translational Science Award from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to support the expanded Los Angeles Biomedical Institute for Clinical and Translational Science (CTSI). The grant, which includes CTSI Biomedical Informatics and Informatics in Health Care as components, will enable the Keck School of Medicine of USC to expand the promise realized in 2008 to promote scientific discovery and their application in real-world settings and to improve public health and health care quality.

“Getting this Clinical and Translational Science Award helps put us at the top of the competitive landscape of academic health centers in the country,” said Carmen A. Puliafito, M.D., M.B.A., dean of the Keck School of Medicine. “It positions us to work with a wide range of academic and policy partners to bring scientific discovery to practice.”

“We are excited to have this opportunity to bring different people, departments, schools and institutions together to make health care better,” Buchanan said. “The Clinical and Translational Science Award provides the funding to support a breadth of health concepts and areas the Keck School of Medicine of USC is uniquely positioned to meet thanks to its great academic partners.”

Buchanan noted that the CTSI is what sets the Keck School of Medicine of USC apart from the competition by articulating the institution’s commitment to serving a diverse and urban population and their application in real-world settings and to improve public health and health care quality. “We’re not only developing innovative treatments, but also the infrastructure and systems that will be needed to bring those treatments to practice,” Buchanan said.

“We congratulate principal investigator Dr. Tom Buchanan and the Keck School of Medicine of USC on this very important award,” said Secretary of Health and Human Services Kathleen Sebelius. “This step is the ultimate paradigm shift that will require new skills to complement traditional healthcare delivery, and the CTSI is helping to develop those skills.”

The CTSI’s ultimate mission is to connect basic scientists to clinical and community researchers and practitioners to accelerate the pace at which laboratory discoveries are translated into practice. The CTSI’s four major goals are: (1) to generate community and interdisciplinary research in many disease areas and to develop new ways to advance medical research; (2) to develop the Clinical and Translational Science Institute as a national model of a premier clinical and translational institute with the potential for a critical mass of translational researchers; (3) to strengthen connections between scientists conducting clinical and translational research and community researchers; (4) to share research findings with care providers, community leaders, and community research.

The CTSI also will develop Web-based educational materials that will be accessible to faculty training and community researchers. Resources will be developed that will be accessible to faculty training and community researchers.

“The Clinical and Translational Science Award provides the funding to support a breadth of health concepts and areas the Keck School of Medicine of USC is uniquely positioned to meet thanks to its great academic partners,” Buchanan said. “We’re not only developing innovative treatments, but also the infrastructure and systems that will be needed to bring those treatments to practice.”

“We congratulate principal investigator Dr. Tom Buchanan and the Keck School of Medicine of USC on this very important award,” said Secretary of Health and Human Services Kathleen Sebelius. “This step is the ultimate paradigm shift that will require new skills to complement traditional healthcare delivery, and the CTSI is helping to develop those skills.”

The CTSI’s ultimate mission is to connect basic scientists to clinical and community researchers and practitioners to accelerate the pace at which laboratory discoveries are translated into practice.
$56.8 Million for Clinical and Translational Research

With the award, the CTSI joins a consortium of 55 academic health centers in 29 states and the District of Columbia that are developing new ways to advance medical research to benefit patients and the community. It is one of the largest providers of health care in Los Angeles. We are working collaboratively with others on campus and off campus, seeing L.A. as a real-world laboratory to address the specific needs of the urban and diverse populations, specifically highly urban inner-city communities. That’s what makes this CTSI distinct is the unique patient demographics.

The CTSI was established in 2006 to promote scientific discoveries with the hope of translating them to improve health and quality of life. The award comes at a time when the paradigm shift that will require new skills to complement traditional scientific knowledge and training.

The CTSI has four main goals for this award. The first is to create an integrated academic environment that promotes and supports clinical and community researchers. The second goal of the CTSI is to develop new translational studies and projects. The third goal is to develop a highly interdisciplinary team for winning this award. The fourth goal is to develop a highly interdisciplinary team for winning this award.

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NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH CLINICAL AND TRANSLATIONAL SCIENCE AWARDS JOINING A CRUCIALLY IMPORTANT CLUB

NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH CLINICAL AND TRANSLATIONAL SCIENCE AWARDS

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