

Partnership News

Fred Hutchinson Cancer
Research Center
New Mexico State University

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About the Partnership for the Advancement of Cancer Research Project

The Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center and New Mexico State University received funds from the NCI in September 2007 to expand an existing collaboration. This U54 award is led by Drs. Beti Thompson (FHCRC) and Mary O'Connell (NMSU).

This grant is comprised of one pre-pilot, eight pilots, and two full research projects that involve investigators from the four research divisions at the FHCRC and various scientific departments at NMSU.



NMSU interns present their research at the FHCRC poster session.

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Welcome to the Partnership!

In March 2008, the FHCRC/NMSU Partnership issued a request for proposals. Following Study Section review of the six proposals, the collaboration's Program Steering Committee recommended funding the following four projects:

Pilot Project 8: Development of Biologically-active Datura Extract as a Breast Cancer Therapy. Drs. Julian Simon (FHCRC) and Mary O'Connell (NMSU)

Pilot Project 9: Una Mano Amiga, patient navigator program for Southwest New Mexico. Drs. Carol Moinpour and Nigel Bush (FHCRC) and Hugo Vilchis (NMSU)

Pilot Project 10: Comparison of protein-protein interactions of Grb7 and s-SHIP within the P13 kinase signaling pathway of stem cells. Drs. Larry Rohrschneider (FHCRC) and Barbara Lyons (NMSU)

Pre-pilot 11: Gardens for Health: Development of an Intervention Model for the Prevention or Management of Diet Related Illness Among the Navajo. Drs. Shirley Beresford (FHCRC) and Kevin Lombard (NMSU).

Congratulations to our new investigators!

Cancer Health Disparities Conference

We are excited to announce that New Mexico State University, the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, and the University of New Mexico Cancer Center will jointly host the **Cancer Health Disparities Conference: Building Bridges to Improve Rural Health** in Las Cruces, New Mexico on May 27-29, 2009. Speakers will discuss topics from cancer prevention to survivorship and address issues that impact basic research, intervention, and access as well as public policy and advocacy. For more information about the conference, contact Lené Loest at hloest@nmsu.edu.

Do you have suggestions for future newsletter content? Please contact Jennifer Anderson at janderso@fhcrc.org or Lené Loest at hloest@nmsu.edu.

Training Program Recruitment

We are asking our investigators to help increase awareness of the training programs sponsored by the *Undergraduate Student Training in Cancer Research* and the *Graduate Training in Cancer Research and Health Disparities* projects, both of which are supported by the FHCRC/NMSU partnership. Thank you for your help with this important endeavor!

Undergraduate Training

The **Cancer Research Internship Program for Undergraduate Students** is a nine-week internship that is designed to provide mentorship and research experience in the areas of basic science, human biology, public health science, or clinical research. For more information about the program, visit: www.fhcrc.org/undergraduate.

The **Cancer Research Internship Program for Post-baccalaureate Students** is a nine-month internship designed to provide research experience and mentorship for students who are at least senior standing or who have graduated from NMSU within the past year. For more information about the program, visit: www.fhcrc.org/postbac.



Summer interns enjoyed exploring the sites in Seattle.

The **Cancer Teaching Fellows Program** provides an opportunity for FHCRC post doctoral fellows to gain mentored undergraduate teaching experience at NMSU. Fellows will complete a two-week residency at NMSU that is designed to provide diversity training to FHCRC post-doctoral fellows and enhance the cancer education curriculum at NMSU. For more information about program, visit: www.fhcrc.org/ctf.

Graduate Training

The *Graduate Training in Cancer Research and Health Disparities* project sponsors the **Cancer Research Field Experience for MPH Students**, which is designed to provide field experience and mentorship for NMSU students interested in public health aspects of cancer research. For more information about the program, visit: www.fhcrc.org/mph.

The **Border Epidemiology and Environmental Health Center Experience** is open to University of Washington Health Sciences Students. Students will spend two weeks studying border health disparities in Las Cruces, New Mexico, and visit hospitals, clinics, community centers, and bi-national health organizations. The goal of this program is to expose students to the challenges and triumphs of delivering healthcare and conducting research in communities with limited resources along the border. For more information about the BEC Experience, visit: www.fhcrc.org/bec.



BEC Experience participants with promotora, Olga Hernandez.

The **Ph.D. Lab-Based Research Program** is designed to enhance the quality of an NMSU Ph.D candidate's dissertation or expand the results that the student is able to obtain. The program can support one student per academic year. The student will spend three quarters (nine months) or two quarters (six months) at the FHCRC conducting a specific portion of his/her research project. During this period, the student will matriculate at the University of Washington and take UW or FHCRC courses related to their research interests. For more information about the program, visit: www.fhcrc.org/phd.

Visit www.fhcrc.org/science/pacr and/or <http://cancer.nmsu.edu> to learn more about the PACR project.