

RCMI CONSORTIUM GOAL STATEMENT

The RCMi Coordinating Center works closely with key personnel at all RCMi U54 Specialized Centers and with NIMHD leaders and staff to help the centers collectively achieve their objectives to: (1) enhance institutional research capacity within the areas of basic biomedical, behavioral, and/or clinical research; (2) enable all levels of investigators to become more successful in obtaining competitive extramural support, especially from NIH, particularly on diseases that disproportionately impact minority and other health disparity populations; (3) foster environments conducive to career enhancement with a special emphasis on development of early career investigators; (4) enhance the quality of all scientific inquiry and promote research on minority health and health disparities; and (5) establish sustainable relationships with community-based organizations that partner with RCMi Centers.

OVERALL OBJECTIVE OF THE ANNUAL GRANTEE'S CONFERENCE

The RCMi Program Grantees Conference will bring together RCMi U54 Centers PI/PDs and other senior scientists from each center, research project leaders, pilot project awardees, key community partners, NIH leaders, and staff to exchange information and discuss opportunities for collaboration and strategies for solving shared challenges in (1) project administration and coordination among sites; (2) research resources to support scientific and multi-site projects; (3) early-stage investigator development and mentoring; and (4) community engagement.

Sunday, April 28, 2024

4:00 PM – 6:00 PM **Welcome Reception**

6:00 PM – 8:00 PM **Principal Investigator's Association Meeting (CLOSED)**

6:00 PM – 8:00 PM **Hands-On Training: RCMi Collaboration Tools & Data Collection Portal**
Overarching Goal: The goal of this hands-on workshop is to introduce and onboard RCMi-Investigators to the All of Us (AoU) Researcher Workbench. This workshop is designed for those with little to no experience with AoU, the workshop will include a presentation of the AoU program and the Public Data Browser followed by a customized "data treasure hunt".

Moderator

Mohammed Y. Idris, PhD
Morehouse School of Medicine

Monday, April 29, 2024

7:00 AM – 8:00 AM **Continental Breakfast**

8:00 AM – 11:00 AM **Plenary Session I & Opening:
RCMI Collaboration and Partnership Opportunities with
NIH Institutes and Centers and the Center for Scientific Review**
NIH leaders will engage RCMi investigators on strategic initiatives and funding opportunities that address workforce diversity and collaborative research on health disparities. This session will highlight collaborative opportunities that RCMi investigators are uniquely positioned to lead.

8:00 AM – 8:30 AM Welcome & RCMi Consortium Introduction

Elizabeth O. Ofili, MD, MPH
Contact PI
RCMI Coordinating Center

Emma Fernandez-Repollet, PhD
Chair, Steering Committee

8:30 AM – 9:00 AM Opening Remarks

Eliseo Perez-Stable, MD
Director, NIMHD

9:00 AM – 9:20 AM NIH Workforce Diversity Initiatives and Funding Opportunities

Marie Bernard, MD
Chief Officer
Scientific Workforce Diversity

9:20 AM – 9:35 AM National Institute of General Medical Sciences

John R. Lorsch, PhD
Director, NIGMS

9:35 AM – 9:50 AM National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute

Gary H. Gibbons, MD (TBC)
Director, NHLBI



9:50 AM – 10:05 AM	National Institute on Drug Abuse	Wilson Compton, MD, MPE Deputy Director, NIDA
10:05 AM – 10:20 AM	National Cancer Institute	Douglas R. Lowy, MD Principal Deputy Director, NCI
10:20 AM – 10:40 AM	Center for Scientific Review	Noni Byrnes, PhD Director, CSR
10:40 AM – 11:00 AM	Moderated Panel Discussion / Q&A	

Monday, April 29, 2024

11:00 AM – 1:00 PM	Boxed Lunch	
11:30 AM – 1:00 PM	RCMI Presidents Luncheon Meeting with NIMHD Leadership (CLOSED) <i>RCMI Presidents will engage NIMHD Leadership in a bidirectional conversation to address priorities for the RCMi program and highlight Return on Investment (ROI) of NIH research infrastructure and training support.</i>	
1:00 PM – 2:00 PM	Plenary Session II RCMI Consortium Keynote and Panel Discussion <i>Highlight RCMi contribution to national science advances and innovation in NIH priorities on diversity, equity, and inclusion. The interactive session is designed to foster collaboration.</i>	
2:15 PM – 4:15 PM	Plenary Session III RCMI U54 Centers Presentation Session I <i>Highlight RCMi contribution to national science advances and innovation in NIH priorities on diversity, equity, and inclusion.</i>	
4:30 PM – 6:30 PM	Poster Networking Reception 1 and Exhibits	

Tuesday, April 30, 2024

7:00 AM – 8:00 AM	Poster Networking Breakfast 1 and Exhibits	
8:00 AM – 9:45 AM	Plenary Session IV RCMI Consortium Program Evaluation	
8:00 AM – 8:05 AM	Moderator	TBD
8:05 AM – 8:25 AM	Update on RCMi Program Evaluation	TBD NIMHD
8:25 AM – 8:35 AM	Q&A	
8:35 AM – 9:05 AM	RCMI Community Engagement Consortium Signature Programs	TBD
9:05 AM – 9:20 AM	RCMI U54 Centers Evaluation, Data Collection, and Harmonization	TBD
9:20 AM – 9:35 AM	Q&A	
9:35 AM – 9:45 AM	Closing Remarks	TBD

**10:00 AM – 11:00 AM Plenary Session V
RCMI Collaborations and Administrative Supplements**

	Moderator	TBD
	COSWD	TBD
	NIDA	TBD
	All of Us	TBD
	ODSS	TBD
	CFAR	TBD

Tuesday, April 30, 2024

11:30 AM – 1:00 PM Plenary Session VI: Lunch & Conversation

Featuring NIMHD Training and Other Opportunities from Collaborating NIH ICs

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11:30 AM – 1:00 PM RCMI Administrators Working Lunch (Closed)

RCMI Program Administrators and Program Managers Association

Overarching Goal: *This session will provide insights on how to educate users about new AI-enhanced functionalities and accurately interpret AI-driven insights.*

Session Objectives:

1. *Participants will be able to improve their work efficiency, make better decisions based on data, and make it easier for their institutions to successfully implement AI technology.*

	Moderators	SeTonia Cook Meharry Medical College Geannene Trevillion Morehouse School of Medicine
11:30 AM – 11:50 AM	Welcome and Introductions	Program Administrators
11:50 AM – 12:20 PM	Checklists for Cores and Projects	Claudia Alberico, PhD North Carolina Central University
12:25 PM – 12:55 PM	AI in Research Administration	Stacey McRae Howard University
12:55 PM – 1:00 PM	Closing Remarks	



1:30 PM – 3:00 PM

Concurrent Workshop A: Investigator Development

Overarching Goal: To foster transdisciplinary collaboration and mentorship across the RCMI Consortium.

Session Objectives:

1. Explore new collaborative and mentoring partnerships
2. Gain insights into research across the network
3. Learn about research cores and other resources

This science speed-dating workshop will allow basic biomedical, clinical, community and behavioral researchers the opportunity to engage with others who may not be familiar with their research area. This session will consist of rotating, small group roundtable discussions to enable participants to share their research ideas and needs. By introducing their research and discussing their needs, participants will establish new collaborative and mentoring networks, as well as gain insights into research fields that they previously knew nothing or very little about.

	Moderators	Zhenbang Chen, PhD Meharry Medical College
		Marc Cox, PhD University of Texas, El Paso
		Stacey Gorniak, PhD University of Houston
		Georges Haddad, PhD Howard University
		Christine Hohmann, PhD Morgan State University
		Eun-Sook Lee, PhD Florida A&M University
		Temesgen Samuel, DVM, PhD Tuskegee University
		Jonathan Stiles, PhD Morehouse School of Medicine
		Nicolette Teufel-Shone, PhD Northern Arizona University

1:30 PM – 3:00 PM

Concurrent Workshop B: Community Engagement and Evaluation

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1:30 PM – 3:00 PM

Concurrent Workshop C: Research Infrastructure Consortium

Overarching Goal: Facilitate communication about research resources at RCMI U54 Centers in order to enhance effectiveness and efficiency of core facilities and promote innovative practices for collaborative and interdisciplinary research.

Session Objectives:

1. Share up-to-date information and highlight novel technological developments and their application to innovative research aimed at improving minority health and reducing and/or eliminating health disparities
2. Discuss issues and best practices in core facilities management and operations
3. Share practical information to enhance the optimization and implementation of technologies and techniques within core facility and biomolecular laboratory settings
4. Brainstorm strategic solutions to challenges and impediments to the cost-effective management of RIC/RCC facilities

	Moderators	Renato Aguilera, PhD University of Texas at El Paso Abiel Roche-Lima, PhD University of Puerto Rico Medical Science Campus Catherine Propper, PhD Northern Arizona University Wendy Jia Men Huang, PhD San Diego State University Jacqueline Stevens, PhD Jackson State University
1:30 PM – 1:35 PM	Welcome and Workshop Overview	Paul B. Tchounwou, ScD Morgan State University
1:35 PM – 1:52 PM	Single Cell Approaches (e.g RNAseq, ATACseq, DNaseq) to Explore Tumor Microenvironment in Relation to Health Disparity	Sergei Nekhai, PhD Howard University
1:52 PM – 2:10 PM	Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning as Service and Training at RCMI Coordinating Center	Mohammed Y. Idris, PhD Morehouse School of Medicine
2:10 PM – 2:28 PM	The NIH Strategic Plan for Data Science and the STRIDES Initiative: Tools, community-building activities, training, and examples of previously successful projects	Alissa Dillman, PhD Montgomery College Former NIH Office of Data Science Strategy
2:28 PM – 2:35 PM	Break	
2:35 PM – 2:50 PM	Panel Discussion on Challenges, Solutions, and Best Practices for Improving Operational Efficiency and Cost-Effective Management of RIC/RCC Facilities	Pranab Dutta, PhD Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science Fatima Merchant, PhD University of Houston Kinfe Redda, PhD Florida A&M University James Wachira, PhD Morgan State University
2:50 PM – 3:00 PM	Q&A	

1:30 PM – 3:00 PM

Concurrent Workshop D: EQBMED – Equitable Medicines Development RCMI-CC / PhRMA Foundation Collaboration

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3:15 PM – 4:45 PM **Concurrent Workshop E: NRMN Alumni, Coaches, and Developers Networking and Writing**

3:15 PM – 4:45 PM **Concurrent Workshop F: RCMi Administrators**
Overarching Goal: Engage consortium wide RCMi U54 Center Administrators to share best practices on effective research administration and research compliance. Optimize data collection for reporting and evaluation of U54 Centers.

- Session Objectives:**
1. Optimize data collection for reporting and evaluation of U54 Centers.
 2. Provide fiscal and administration session for program managers and research administrators of the RCMi consortium.

	Moderators	SeTonia Cook Meharry Medical College Geannene Trevillion Morehouse School of Medicine
3:15 PM – 3:45 PM	Pre-Award & Budget Development	Tamara Hill, PhD, CRA Morehouse School of Medicine
3:50 PM – 4:20 PM	Speaker	TBD
4:25 PM – 4:40 PM	Open Discussions	
4:40 PM – 4:45 PM	Closing Remarks	

3:15 PM – 4:45 PM **Concurrent Workshop G: RCMi Clinical Research Network for Health Equity Multi-Site Collaboration – UG3 / UH3**

3:15 PM – 4:45 PM **Concurrent Workshop H: Data Science Collaboration NOSIs / All of Us Workbench Projects**
Overarching Goal: The goal of this concurrent session is to present findings from Data Science Collaboration NOSIs and original research from AI/ML for Health Equity projects. We will also have a general presentation on, funding opportunities related to two flagship NIH programs: the All of Us Researcher Workbench as well as the Artificial Intelligence/Machine Learning Consortium to Advance Health Equity and Researcher Diversity (AIM/AHEAD).

- Session Objectives:**
3. ???
 4. ???
 5. ???

	Moderators	Mohammed Y. Idris, PhD Morehouse School of Medicine Gabriel J. Odom, PhD Florida International University
	AI/ML for Health Disparities Research Focused on Hispanics	Abel Roche-Lima, PhD University of Puerto Rico, Medical Sciences Campus
	Machine Learning Analysis of Mixed Metals and Clinical Measures in Pediatric Populations	Carmen-Dickinson Copeland, PhD, MSCR Morehouse School of Medicine
	CardioGPT: Addressing Imbalanced Learning Commonly Encountered in ECG Classification using NLP	Jianwei Zheng, PhD Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science
	Identifying Multi-Factor Combinations of Clinical And Socio-Demographical Data to Predict Cervical Dysplasia Outcomes Using Machine Learning Algorithms to Tackle Health Disparities Among Different Races/Ethnicities	Eduardo L. Tosado Rodríguez, PhD, MSc University of Puerto Rico, Medical Sciences Campus

6:00 PM – 7:00 PM **Plenary Session VII: Sidney A McNairy, Jr., PhD, DSc Awards Ceremony**

7:00 PM – 9:00 PM **Poster Networking Reception 2 & Exhibits**



Wednesday, May 1, 2024

7:00 AM – 8:00 AM Poster Networking Breakfast 2 & Exhibits

8:00 AM – 1:30 PM Plenary Session VIII & Closing

8:00 AM – 8:05 AM	Moderator	TBD
8:05 AM – 12:35 PM	RCMI U54 Center Presentations	TBD
12:35 PM – 12:40 PM	Moderator	TBD
12:40 PM – 1:15 PM	Closing Charge	Monica Webb Hooper, PhD Deputy Director, NIMHD
1:15 PM – 1:30 PM	Closing Remarks	Elizabeth O. Ofili, MD, MPH Contact PI RCMI Coordinating Center
		Emma Fernandez-Repollet, PhD Chair, Steering Committee

