



GHUCCTS at the 2025 ACTS Conference

GHUCCTS Concurrent Sessions

Tuesday, April 15, 1:30 PM – 2:30 PM EDT

Competency-Based Assessment to Support the Training of the Next Generation of Translational Scientists

GHUCCTS Speaker: Dr. Gondré-Lewis

Previous work on competency-based assessment in the CTSA program has focused on defining clinical & translational science and team science competencies to support the development of training curricula and assessment tools. A CTSA Working Group, comprised of training program directors, administrators, and evaluators from nearly 30 CTSA program, is taking the next step to develop a Translational Science Competency-Based Assessment (TS CBA) tool to support the training of translational scientists. The framework is based in part on the NCATS characteristics of a translational scientist and principles of translational science. This workshop is designed to update the workforce development community about the progress and validation of the TS CBA tool as the working group nears completion. Presenters will illustrate how the TS CBA tool can be incorporated into workforce development programs to (1) monitor the acquisition of translational science knowledge, skills, and attitudes, and (2) support effective mentor-mentee conversations focused on TS competencies. After a brief introductory mini-lecture, participants will meet in small groups for a brief role-play exercise, followed by a large group debriefing discussion. During the breakout group activity, two volunteers will assume the roles of mentee and mentor having a conversation based on the new TS CBA tool. Other group members will observe and discuss the interchange and possible outcomes of the conversation. A group spokesperson will then share the group's thoughts and conclusions during a large group debriefing session to explore how the TS CBA tool might affect the dynamics of communication between mentees and mentors and guide specific conversations that support the development of translational science competencies in a positive and productive manner. Finally, participants will be invited to contribute to the final stage of TS CBA validation studies.

Location: International Ballroom East

Link to Session Details: <https://events.rdmobile.com/Sessions/Details/2664407>

Wednesday, April 16, 10:30 AM – 11:30 AM EDT

Utilizing Multi-Institutional Collaborations in Clinical and Translational Research (CTR) To Advance Translational Data Science

GHUCCTS Speakers/Moderators: Dr. Blackman, Dr. Libin, Dr. McGarvey, Dr. Shara, Dr. Gondré-Lewis, and Dr. Verbalis

This panel discussion will focus on the successful collaborations among the Georgetown-Howard Universities Center for Clinical & Translational Science (GHUCCTS), the National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences (NCATS), and national data science networks to build artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning (ML) capacity in underserved populations and communities, with the over-arching goal of promoting health equity. By building upon 15 years of GHUCCTS' experience with utilizing multi-institutional collaborations in

translational science to promote health equity, the panel will outline approaches to tackle current challenges in data science, such as limitations of big data analytics, ethical dilemmas in AI use, and inherent biases in AI/ML algorithms. We will illustrate successful strategies for education, infrastructure development, and community engagement that have accelerated the development of equitable healthcare solutions through joint multi-institutional efforts, and show how these will ultimately make a significant impact on the effective utilization of AI/ML in an equitable, ethical and trustworthy manner.

Location: Georgetown West

Link to Session Details: <https://events.rdmobile.com/Sessions/Details/2664429>

Wednesday, April 16, 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM EDT

Enhancing Health Research: Inclusive Strategies for Engaging People with Limited English Proficiency

GHUCCTS Speaker: Florencia Gonzalez

This session will share knowledge and tools for ensuring research more equitably includes diverse populations by specifically reducing institutional, language, and associated attitudinal barriers to study participation of people who speak languages other than English. The number of households in which English is not the primary language has tripled since 1980. Today, nearly 68 million (1 in 5) people speak a language other than English at home (1). Clinical and translational research has not established sufficient structures, policies, procedures, and practices to ensure quality language access for people with limited

English proficiency (LEP). Clinical studies continue to exclude persons with LEP from participation, which limits sample representativeness and thus reduces potential benefits for multilingual populations and potentially exacerbates existing health disparities. This session will provide study teams with tangible strategies for enhancing meaningful inclusion of people with LEP in health research, including responsible use of AI, and for ensuring the provision of quality language access services.

Location: Georgetown West

Link to Session Details: <https://events.rdmobile.com/Sessions/Details/2664433#timeline>

GHUCCTS Poster Presentations

Tuesday, April 15: 5:15 PM – 6:45 PM

5 – Emily Stahl, TL1 GU Predoctoral candidate

Aurora Kinase Inhibition Synergizes with Fanconi Anemia Pathway Defects to Limit Tumorigenesis

***TL1 Gold Ribbon Winner**

12 - Christina Marea, PhD, MA, MSN, FACNM, KL2 Scholar

Reimagining Postpartum Care to Advance Health Equity - A Qualitative Study with Black Birthing People and Health Workers

36 – Sadaf Ghaderzadeh, PhD, TL1 HU Postdoctoral Fellow

Kidney miRNA Expression in BTBR ob/ob Mice at a Critical Time Point in Disease Development and Progression

***TL1 Gold Ribbon Winner**

34 – Ryan Staples, PhD, TL1 GU Postdoctoral Fellow

Cognitive models of reading are also models of the brain: identifying the neural correlates of a computational model of reading

***TL1 Gold Ribbon Winner**

43 – Destiny Lawler, TL1 HU Predoctoral candidate

Calcium Channel Blockers for Treatment of Triple-Negative Breast Cancer

***TL1 Gold Ribbon Winner *TL1 Blue Ribbon Winner**

167 – Claudia Gunawan, MS; Marc R. Blackman, MD; Priscilla Adler, MBA; Jane Otado, PhD; & Alexander Libin, PhD, GHUCCTS

Attitudes towards Bioethical Issues in the Applications of Big Data and Artificial Intelligence in Clinical and Translational Research in Underrepresented Populations: A Qualitative Assessment

437 – Aline de Souza, PhD, KL2 Scholar

Long-Term Cardiovascular Risks of Severe Caloric Restriction and the Protective Role of ACE Inhibitors

529 – Meghan Bullard, TL1 GU Predoctoral candidate

The effect of a novel inhibitor of Slc7a5 on remyelination in MS

Wednesday, April 16: 4:45 PM – 6:15 PM

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110 – Patrick McDeed, TL1 GU Predoctoral candidate

Computational methods to monitor treatment response and toxicity in immune-checkpoint-inhibitor treated metastatic melanoma using methylated cell-free DNA

126 – Sarah Phillips, PhD, TL1 GU Postdoctoral Fellow

Characterizing raciolinguistic differences in emotion recognition for post-stroke assessment

470 – Max Stevenson, PhD, TL1 GU Postdoctoral Fellow

Senolytic Therapies as Treatments for Post-Traumatic Epilepsy

***TL1 Blue Ribbon Winner**

594 - Zeeba Manavi, TL1 GU Predoctoral candidate

Tracking newly regenerated oligodendrocytes in preclinical mouse model of multiple sclerosis

528 - Mark D Hatcher, TL1 HU Predoctoral candidate

The Role of Peroxisome Proliferator Activated Receptor-alpha on Blood Pressure, Glomerular Filtration Rate, and Renal Inflammation during High-Salt Hypertension

***TL1 Blue Ribbon Winner**

GHUCCTS Scholar/Trainee Oral Presentations

Wednesday, April 16 from 3:45 PM - 4:45 PM

- Emily Stahl, TL1 GU Predoctoral candidate, Georgetown West
- Destiny Lawler, TL1 HU Predoctoral candidate, Georgetown West
- Sadaf Ghaderzadeh, PhD, TL1 HU Postdoctoral Fellow, Georgetown West
- Ryan Staples, PhD, TL1 GU Postdoctoral Fellow, Georgetown West
- Christina Marea, PhD, MA, MSN, FACNM, KL2 Scholar, Georgetown West

GHUCCTS Trainee 3-Minute Thesis Presentations

The following TL1 trainees have been selected to participate in the 3MT. They will start with a preliminary round and if selected will move on to the final rounds the next day.

Tuesday, April 15 from 4:15 PM - 5:15 PM

Preliminary Round, Lincoln East & West

Destiny Lawler, TL1 GU Predoctoral candidate

Sarah Phillips, PhD, TL1 GU Postdoctoral Fellow

Wednesday, April 16 from 2:30 PM - 3:30 PM

Final Round