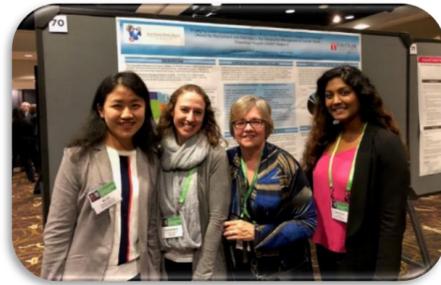


Background

The Geographic Management Program (GMap): A 2009 NCI strategy to build regional networks of health disparities researchers through partnerships, collaborative research, integration of biospecimen and community research and training, fostered by a solid regional infrastructure.



Communication & Dissemination Strategies

Supporting Early/Junior Scholars

- Bi-weekly e-blast which details jobs/funding/resources/training opportunities
- Website: www.foxchase.org/gmap_r4 houses information about research, resources and tools
- Facebook and Twitter - GMap Region 4 - @GMAPR4
- Webinars: Career Development topics (available on website)
- Listserv: Over 800 members that represent basic, clinical and population researchers, senior and junior investigators, disparities program staff, and National Outreach Network Community Health Educators (CHES)

Strategies for Supporting Scholars

- Travel Scholarships to support travel to national conferences (108 to date)
- GMap Meet Ups at National meetings to facilitate networking with peers and senior investigators
- Expert Grant Review
- Pilot Funds to support feasibility research
- Direct link and introductions to Program Directors at NCI CRCHD
- Provide formal and informal mentoring facilitation amongst senior and junior researchers

GMap is a program of the **National Cancer Institute's Center to Reduce Cancer Health Disparities** and through the regional coordinating centers offers a central support system for you – within the geographic location in which you are pursuing your academic and/or professional pursuits – to receive information about targeted research & training opportunities, and other relevant news about cancer health disparities research in your region.

This new funding cycle expands the program to focus on connecting health disparities researchers to biospecimen resources in the region to foster collaboration and expanded research to address cancer disparities.

To find your regional coordinating office –
<https://www.cancer.gov/about-nci/organization/crchd/inp/gmap>.



GMap Region 4

The Region 4 GMap program, also known as the Cancer Disparities Research Network (CDRN), is administratively led by Fox Chase Cancer Center and currently comprised of more than 800 members from more than 40 NCI-funded academic institutions located in 13 states. Primary programs are:

Expert Grant Review: Grant review opportunities for ESI CURE applicants. Current stats: 2/4 grants funded (K01), 2/4 not funded (K08, R01), 1 pending (R01)

Travel Support & Networking: Provide support for travel to national conferences & networking opportunities while attending (16 provided to 2019 AACR HD; 32 total 2019; 108 to date)

Communication & Dissemination: Provide a bi-weekly E-Blast with jobs/funding/training opportunities; New and expanded website; Facebook and Twitter use

Pilot Grants: Have awarded 3 \$10,000 pilot grants for feasibility research

Partnerships and outreach through collaborations with cancer centers, academic institutions, NCORP, NON CHES, NRMN, and other cancer health disparities focused entities

"I am now in contact with many scientists with similar teaching load and work-force; these connections make it easier to survive in this very complex and competitive research area."

"Presenting my research **benefited my current research** trajectory immensely as I was received invaluable feedback from AACR attendees from around the globe which not only confirmed my thoughts regarding future behavioral interventions, but also reinforced how research underpins all the progress we are making in the field toward cancer cures and prevention."

Sign up today! www.foxchase.org/gmap_r4

2018 Survey Results

- In early 2018 two online surveys via REDCap; one aimed at our Travel Awardees and one to our broader membership with experience with the CURE Program.

Survey 1: N=37

Aimed at our Travel Awardees

• Since your award, indicate all submitted grant applications:

- K01 - (1, 6.7%)
- R03 (3, 20.0%)
- R34 (1, 6.7%)
- F31 (4, 26.7%)
- R21 (5, 33.3%)
- R01 (1, 6.7%)

Other award: (8, 53.3%) (Foundation, K07, ACS Mentored Scholar Research Grant, Dept. of Health, Internal Institution funds, pilot funds)

• Travel scholars ranked via Likert scale the following services as "Most Beneficial"

- Travel Scholarships – (21, 95.5%); Pilot Funds (for feasibility data collection to support ongoing research) – (17, 77.3%); E-blast with job/funding/training resources – (12, 54.5%); Grant Review - (11, 50.0%); and Introductions to CRCHD Program Officers in Training Navigation - (10, 47.6%)

Survey 2: N=28

To our broader membership with experience with the CURE Program

• Goal was to gain a better understanding of how the GMap Region 4 can support our ESI community in their cancer research and career development, with a focus on how support for travel to national meetings connects to research success as well as to learn more about CURE program awareness

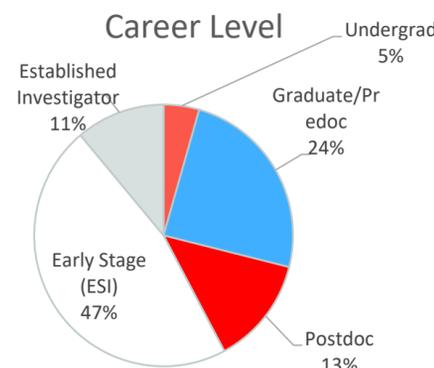
• Respondents gave open-ended responses towards the barriers to applying for CURE:

- Identification of appropriate mentors (6)
- PIs have a lack of NIH awards as we are a heavily undergraduate serving faculty (2)
- Not enough awareness of the application process and awards by either investigators or mentors who mentee junior investigators who match CURE criteria (17)
- Lack of support through the grant process (2)
- Low number of CURE eligible students at institution, so low mentor awareness (4)

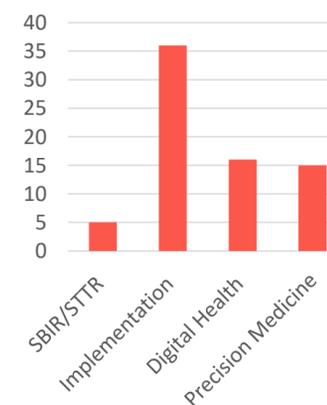
Fall 2019 Survey Results N=50

For the next phase of GMap we've conducted a membership survey to gather feedback on current and proposed programs to plan for the next 2 years and will help prioritize funding. The survey assessed:

- Current regional efforts in the areas of Communications, Funding Support, Career Development and Training Opportunities (Utilization, Benefit, Value)
- Interest in emerging areas of research (e.g. precision medicine, mHealth, implementation science and commercialization)
- Interest and/or utilization of biospecimens for cancer research and GMap's potential to provide support in that area



Research Areas of Interest



Biospecimen Interest



If GMap offered funding grants for early stage investigators to purchase specimens for cancer research, would that be something you would utilize in the next 1-2 years?