



UNYTE
TRANSLATIONAL
RESEARCH NETWORK

UNYTE Translational Research Network
University of Rochester Clinical and Translational Science Institute

Overview

- The University of Rochester Clinical and Translational Science Institute initiated the UNYTE Translational Research Network.
- A consortium of biomedical and academic research centers performing clinical and translational research within the Upstate New York and surrounding regions.
- Goals:
 - Develop the consortium as a “Regional Home for Translational Research” and foster scientific and economic growth.
 - Promote regional research collaborations.
 - Promote sharing of research resources.

UNYTE Mission and Objectives

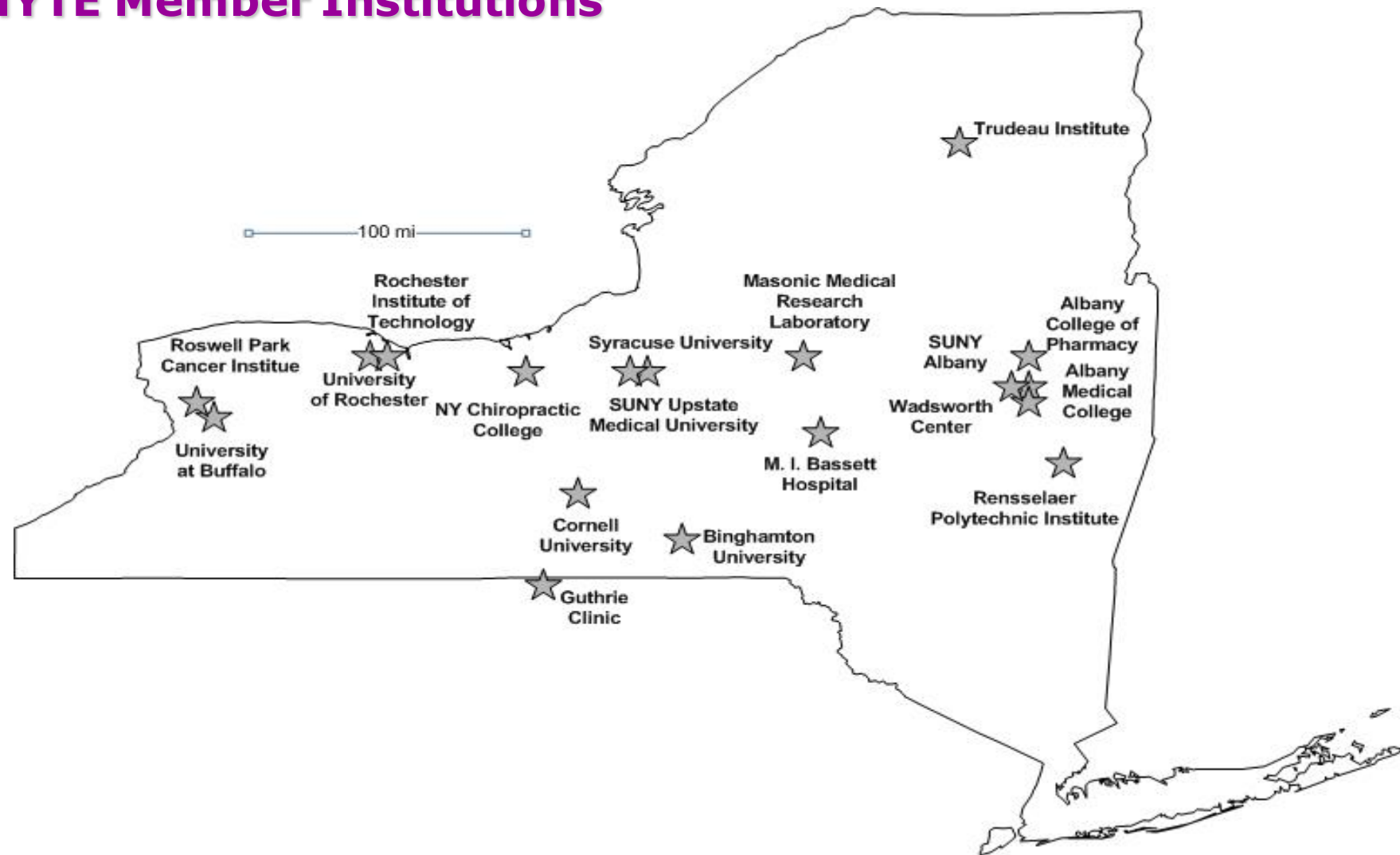
Mission:

- To create a community of scientific collaboration across upstate New York
- To assist faculty and trainees from UNYTE research institutions in increasing the quality and quantity of translational research in the Upstate New York region

Objectives:

- Assess and access technologies, services, expertise and curricula
- Foster collaborative research
- Reduce resource duplication
- Enhance bidirectional transfer of information between basic and clinical investigators

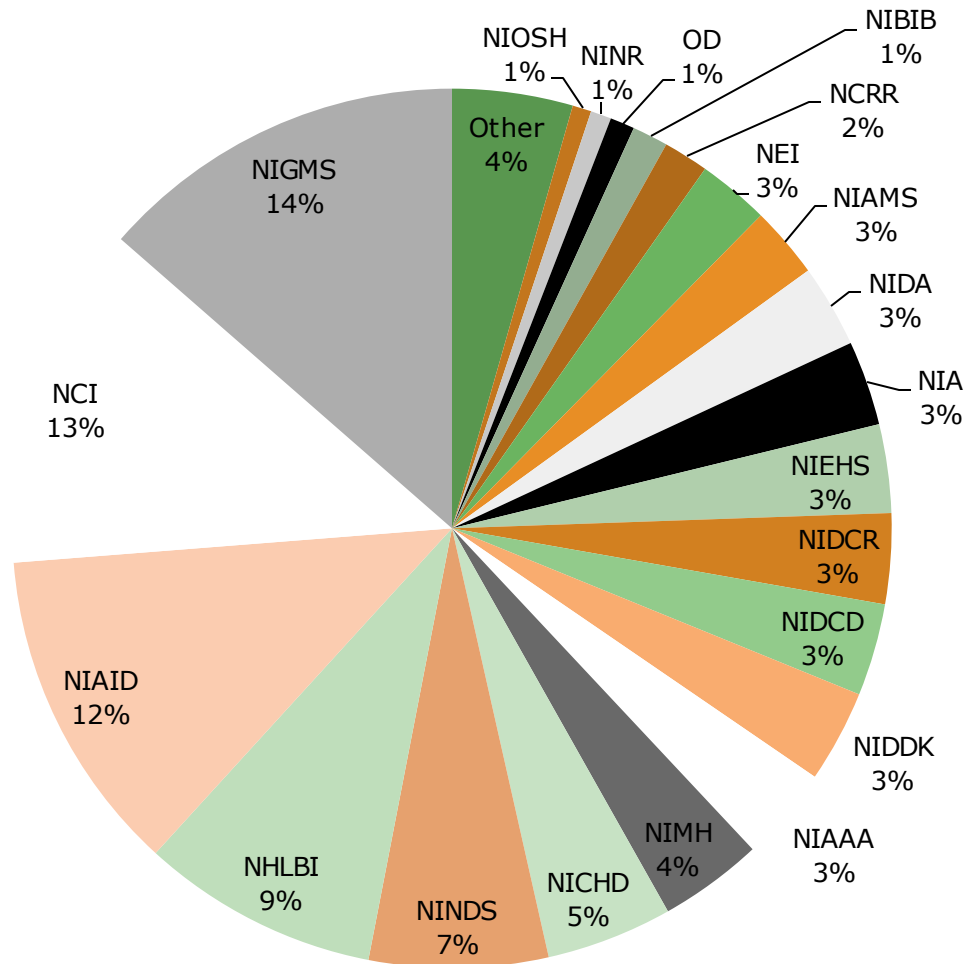
UNYTE Member Institutions



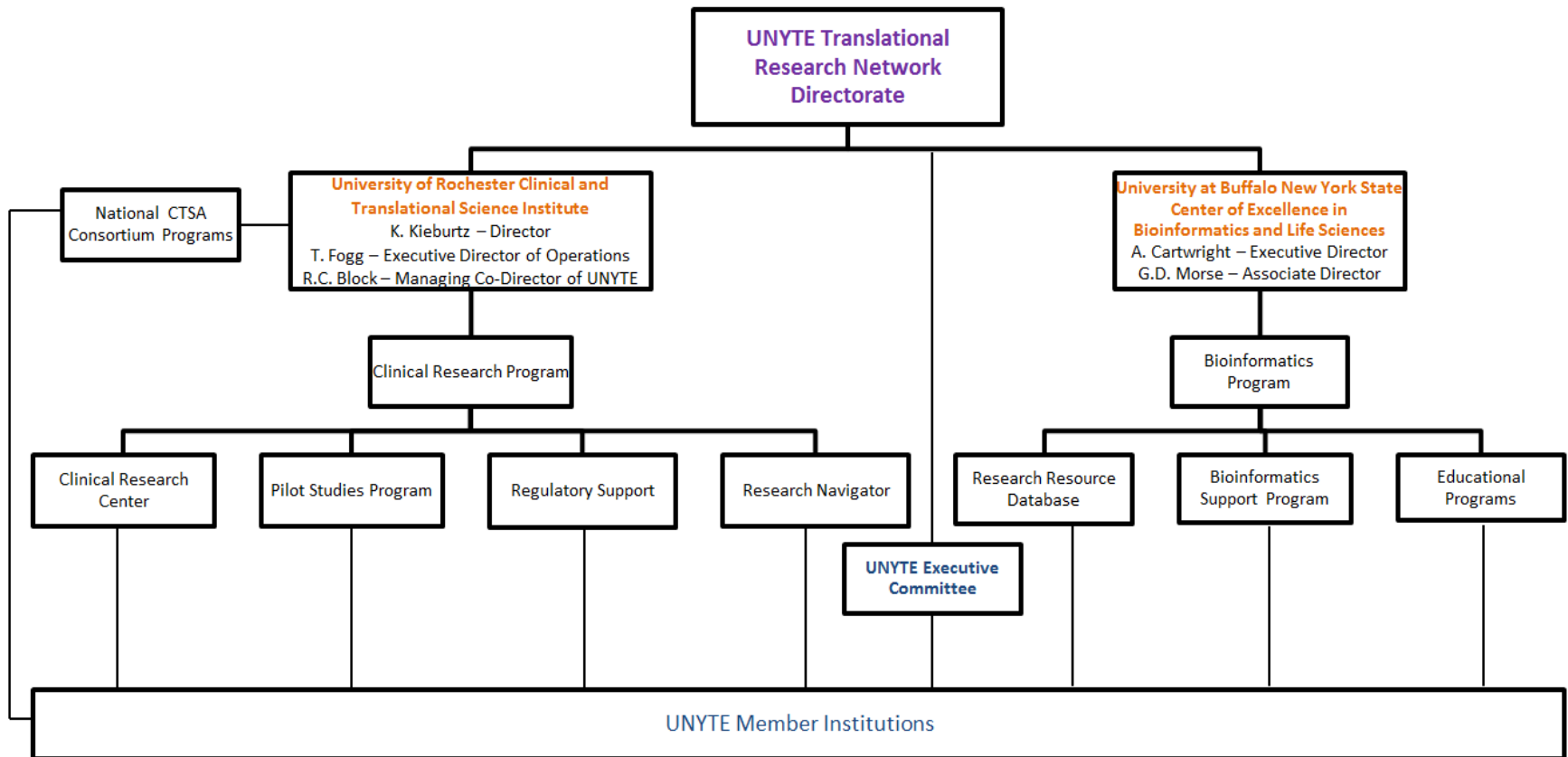
UNYTE Member Current Federal HHS Funding

UNYTE Member Institutions	# of Current Federal Grants	Current Funding Amount (\$)
Albany College of Pharmacy	4	\$921,314
Albany Medical College	55	\$25,317,798
Bassett Healthcare Network	6	\$3,133,079
University at Binghamton, SUNY	31	\$10,512,646
Cornell University (Ithaca)	254	\$89,513,021
Guthrie Health System	0	0
Masonic Medical Research Laboratory	2	\$491,442
NY Chiropractic College	0	0
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute	30	\$9,585,104
Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT)	3	\$749,635
Roswell Park Cancer Institute	92	\$43,381,276
Syracuse University	14	\$3,111,511
Trudeau Institute	10	\$6,317,488
University at Albany, SUNY	53	\$19,379,844
University at Buffalo, SUNY	195	\$62,853,895
Upstate Medical University, SUNY	82	\$24,550,471
University of Rochester	552	\$230,135,754
Wadsworth Center (NYSDOH)	61	\$20,799,003
Totals	1444	\$550,753,281

UNYTE Funding by Center



Organization



UNYTE and PBRN Collaboration

UNYTE coordinated a collaborative platform for PBRNs in Upstate New York to meet monthly and discuss ongoing initiatives and plan for collaborative funding opportunities in the spring of 2013.

Current PBRNs include:

- **UNYNET** - Upstate New York Practice Based Research Network
- **GR-PBRN** - Greater Rochester Practice-Based Research Network
- **SALT-Net** Studying-Acting-Learning-Teaching Network

Group (led by Chris Morley, PhD, at Upstate Medical Center) prepared an application for a NY State Dept of Health Cancer Prevention RFA which was funded in December, 2013. It provides educational and organizational support to primary care practices to enhance colon cancer screening.

Recent Accomplishments

UNYTE Collaborative Pilot Awards

UNYTE Translational Research Network Awards (\$50,000, 12 months) – Facilitate collaboration within the UNYTE Translational Research Network.

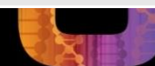
Proposals feature a collaboration between a University of Rochester principal investigator and a co-principal investigator from at least one other UNYTE member.

YEAR	PROJECT TITLE	PI and INSTITUTION	CO-INVESTIGATOR and INSTITUTION
2010	The Upstate New York Network for Collaborative Biomedical Imaging	Axel W.E. Wismueller, MD, PhD (PI) Avice M. O'Connell, MD, (University of Rochester)	Andrzej Krol, PhD, Wei Lee, PhD (Upstate Medical University)
2010	Protein Kinase C Activation and Inhibition of VLDL Triglyceride Export Defines a Mechanism for Development of Non-Alcoholic Fatty Liver Disease	Janet Sparks, PhD (University of Rochester); Michael Greene (Bassett Research Institute)	
2011	Regional Stat Tumor Procurement to Support Studies of Lymphoma	Richard Burack, MD, PhD (University of Rochester)	Robert Hutchison, MD (SUNY Upstate); Tipu Nazeer, MD (Albany Medical College Consultant)
2012	Validity of Self-Reported Data for Studying Cognitive Problems and Depression	Katia Noyes, PhD, MPH (University of Rochester)	Ralph Benedict, PhD (University of Buffalo); Bianca Weinstock-Guttman, MD (University at Buffalo); Andrew Goodman, MD (University of Rochester); Barbara Teter, PhD (New York State Multiple Sclerosis Consortium Consultant);
2013	Regional Ultrasound Wall Strain Measurements to Predict Risk of Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm (AAA) rupture	Ankur Chandra, MD, RPVI (University of Rochester)	Karl Schwarz, MD (University of Rochester); Steven Day, PhD (Rochester Institute of Technology); Dan Phillips, PhD (Rochester Institute of Technology)
2013	Determining the interplay of lymphoma Cells with its Microenvironment using a Novel In vivo Model	Steven H. Bernstein, MD, (University of Rochester)	Richard Burack, MD, PhD (University of Rochester); Shannon Hilchey, PhD (University of Rochester); Richard Bankert, VMD, PhD (University at Buffalo)

Recent Research Grant Opportunities

FUNDED

TITLE/FUNDING MECHANISM	PI and COLLABORATORS
"Rochester Bridges to the Doctorate" NIH R25	Thomas Pearson, MD, MPH, PhD (co-PI UR) Peter Hauser, Ph.D. (co-PI RIT)
"Researcher Resilience through Multidimensional Mentoring-Pathfinder" NIH Director's Office – ARRA Fund	Vivian Lewis, MD (UR) Collaborators: UB, SUNY Upstate
"Fish Oil Effects on Cardiovascular Disease Risk in Diabetics" NIH R21	Robert Block, MD, MPH (UR) Collaborators: ACP, Cornell
"Genetic Risk of Neurocognitive Disorders in Patients with HIV Infection" NIH K08	Qing Ma, PhD (UB) Collaborators: UR, Vanderbilt, UCSD
"CyTOF Mass Cytometer for Western NY " NIH Research Technology U Grant	Tim Bushnell (UR) Collaborators: UB, Roswell Park, Cornell
"UR CTSI Center for Experimental Therapeutics" NIH NCATS	Karl Kieburtz, MD, MPH (UR) Collaborators: UB, ACP
"Emergency Research Network In the Empire State (ERNIES)" UNYTE Pilot Award Recipient	Sandra Schneider, MD (UR) Collaborators: Upstate NY Emergency Rooms
"Neonatal hair concentration measurements to evaluate long term in-utero tenofovir exposure and its impact on toxicities in neonates born to HIV-1 infected mothers". NIH UR Center for AIDS Research (CFAR)	Tinashe Mudzviti, MPhil (UZ) Collaborators: UR, UB
"University of Rochester HIV/AIDS Clinical Trials Unit" (UM1) National Institutes of Health – NIAID/DAIDS AIDS Clinical Trials Group (ACTG)	Michael Keefer at URM Collaborators: UB
"Increasing Cancer Screening through Academic Detailing and Practice Facilitation" Health Research Incorporated from the NYS DOH from a federal grant program	Chris Morley, PhD (Upstate Medical Center) Collaborators: UR, UB



Recent Research Grant Opportunities

PENDING REVIEW

R21 submitted by Bob Block at UPMC in collaboration with Tom Brenna at Cornell. Not funded by NIH but will be by a private/corporate source and will expand the expertise and collaboration within UNYTE for preventing traumatic brain injury in college football players.

R34 submitted by David Strogatz and John May at Bassett with Tom Pearson and Bob Block as consultants/co-investigators. If funded, it will expand cardiovascular disease prevention strategies in rural NY.

R25 submitted (01/2014) by Gretchen Birbeck at UPMC which will, if funded, develop and implement a fellowship curriculum to prepare individuals who have recently completed a doctorate in the neurosciences, post-graduate training in clinical neurology or similar achievement in a neuro-allied field for careers in global neurology. Includes faculty collaboration from UB, Yale, Harvard and international educational institutions.

Visiting Professor Program

In existence since September, 2013. Any UNYTE institution investigators are eligible. The investigator simply contacts Bob Block and an agenda of meetings is arranged at the University of Rochester.

Investigator team visits the University of Rochester, meets with potential collaborative teams, and is informed of CTSI resources

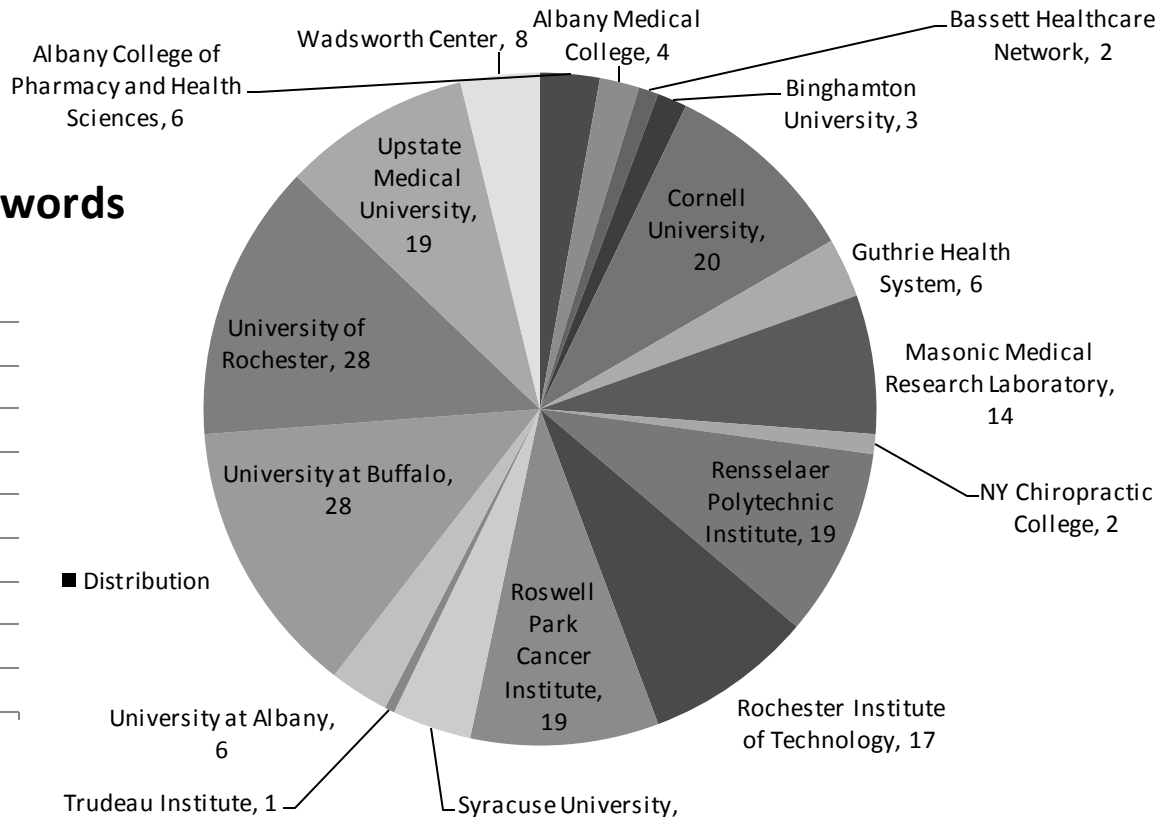
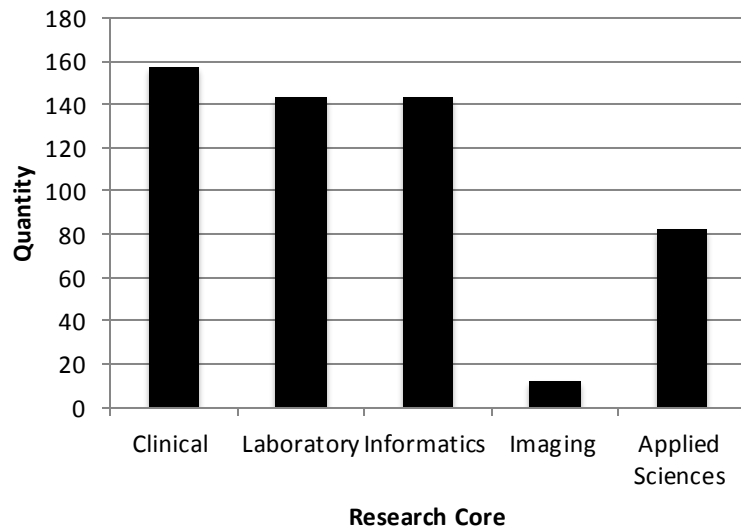
- Paul Agris, PhD, Director, RNA Institute, University at Albany, SUNY; September, 2013.
- Shaker Mousa, PhD, MBA, Director, Pharmaceutical Research Institute, Albany College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences; December, 2013.
- Jeff Kennedy, MD, Director, Translational Research; Albany Medical College, January, 2014.

Recent Accomplishments

Research Resource Database

- A web-based inventory of research resources available at each member institution
- **Resource Cores:** Clinical, Laboratory, Informatics, Imaging, Applied Sciences.
- **Status:** completed with a total of 210 resources available in the database.

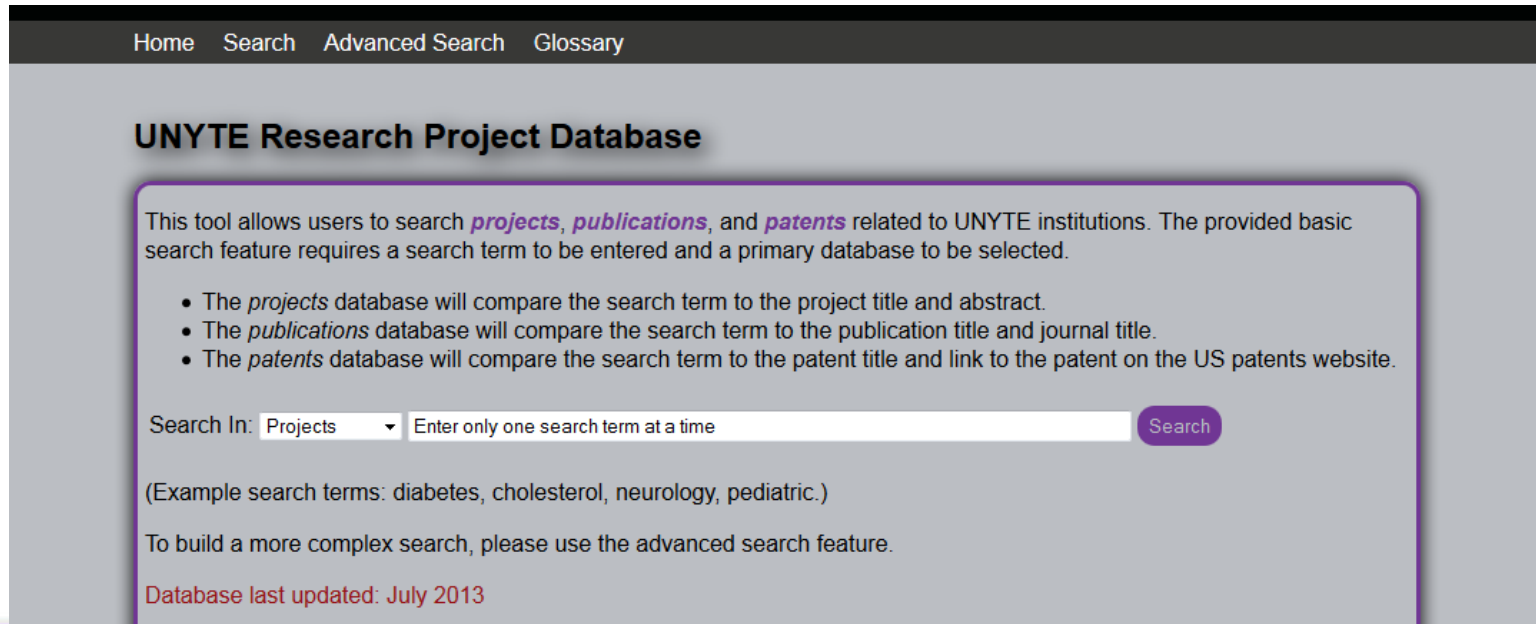
**Distribution of Resources by Keywords
within Research Cores**



Recent Accomplishments

Research Project Database

- ❑ UNYTE has also developed a custom NIH RePORTER Database of NIH funded grants and contracts awarded to UNYTE institutions.
- ❑ The **Research Project Database** is an on-line, searchable inventory of research projects at UNYTE institutions. The information may help users find collaborators or mentors across UNYTE with the database search tools.



The screenshot shows the web interface for the UNYTE Research Project Database. At the top is a navigation bar with links: Home, Search, Advanced Search, and Glossary. Below this is the title "UNYTE Research Project Database". A text box explains that the tool allows users to search for projects, publications, and patents related to UNYTE institutions, requiring a search term and a primary database selection. A bulleted list details the search criteria for each database type. Below the list is a search form with a dropdown menu set to "Projects", a text input field with the placeholder "Enter only one search term at a time", and a purple "Search" button. Example search terms (diabetes, cholesterol, neurology, pediatric.) and a note about the advanced search feature are provided. At the bottom, it states the database was last updated in July 2013.

Home Search Advanced Search Glossary

UNYTE Research Project Database

This tool allows users to search *projects*, *publications*, and *patents* related to UNYTE institutions. The provided basic search feature requires a search term to be entered and a primary database to be selected.

- The *projects* database will compare the search term to the project title and abstract.
- The *publications* database will compare the search term to the publication title and journal title.
- The *patents* database will compare the search term to the patent title and link to the patent on the US patents website.

Search In: Projects Enter only one search term at a time Search

(Example search terms: diabetes, cholesterol, neurology, pediatric.)

To build a more complex search, please use the advanced search feature.

Database last updated: July 2013

Recent Accomplishments

Institutional Review Board Reliance Model MOU

The purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is to outline the division of general responsibilities for Institutional Review Board (IRB) review of human subject research conducted by two or more member institutions belonging to the UNYTE Translational Research Network (UNYTE), a broad consortium of institutions in upstate New York and the surrounding area concerned with promoting collaborations in biomedical research and sharing research resources.

Current number of executed MOUs: 8

Next step: pilot-test the MOU with an actual project.

Recent Meetings

2013 UNYTE Quarterly Meetings

Purpose: Highlight host institution's areas of expertise and key resources.

- February 14, 2013: Masonic Medical Research Laboratory in Utica, NY
 - Regional Stat Tumor Procurement to Support Studies of Lymphoma
 - Experimental Models of Inherited Cardiac Arrhythmia Diseases
 - Experimental Models of Atrial Fibrillation
 - Genetic Screening and Functional Expression Studies
 - Stem Cell Research
- May 2, 2013: SUNY Albany in Albany, NY
 - Biomedical Sciences, Environmental Health Sciences, and Center for Functional Genomics at the Cancer Research Center
 - Epidemiology and Biostatistics in the School of Public Health
 - Neural Stem Cell Institute
- October 10, 2013: New York Chiropractic College in Seneca Falls, NY
 - Back pain, biomechanics and quantification of physical function
 - Elasticity measurements of skeletal muscle using elastography
 - Community health and the URM Center for Community Health
- *Upcoming Meeting* Spring 2014 – University of Rochester in Rochester, NY

MedTech/UNYTE Collaborative Meetings

MedTech is a non-profit trade association representing Upstate New York's bioscience and medical technology industry. It is an active association of pharmaceutical, biotech and medical technology companies, their suppliers and service providers, and research universities. UNYTE has partnered with MedTech to organize events at UNYTE member institutions based on key resources and expertise available at the site.

Recent Program

"Designing Smart Medical Devices for Health Information Systems Integration"

January 24, 2013 - University at Buffalo NYS Center of Excellence in Bioinformatics and Life Sciences

- Linking medical technology to centralized EMR systems:
 - What should component suppliers and the medical device community keep in mind when designing new technologies to operate within HIT systems?
- Initiatives and guidelines/standards from the NYS Department of Health and the US Department of Health and Human Services for integrating HIT with new medical devices
- How future computing and informatics tools will interface with large health systems data networks

Future Programs

- May 2014 – Albany, NY Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI)
- TBD – Syracuse, NY

UNYTE Neuroscience Scientific Sessions

May 16, 2014 – Rochester, NY

TITLE: UNYTE Resources and Projects Relevant to Neuroscience Research

AGENDA

11:00-11:15: Introduction and Overview of UNYTE (Bob Block, Gene Morse, Tom Fogg)

11:15-12:15: Keynote speakers (Jonathan Wolpaw and Gerv Schalk at the Wadsworth Center)

12:15-1:15: Panel Discussion: How UNYTE institutions might collaborate to take advantage of Upstate NY neuroscience research expertise and resources (lunch served)

1:15-3:30 pm: Poster session and collaboration development with planned attendance of URM CTSI Leadership

Section A: Student Research

Section B: Faculty Research

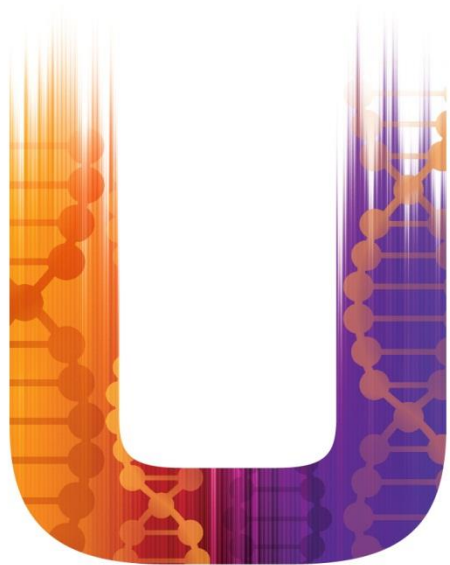
Section C: UNYTE Resources (shared resources and cores available at UNYTE institutions)

3:30-4 pm: Student awards presented; Wrap-up

18

Current Priorities and Future Direction

- Continue to foster collaboration in clinical and translational research among UNYTE institutions.
- Identify clinical and translational research training needs among member institutions, and promote programs to meet those needs.
- Foster innovation among UNYTE institutions that will lead to novel clinical and translational research programs that are competitive for federal funding.
- Promote collaboration among diverse organizations within the UNYTE geographic region, including community-based and patient organizations in urban and rural health care settings, and industry.
- Utilize information technology and communications systems to promote regionalization of scientific research that addresses the needs of patients in our communities.



Questions?

UNYTE
TRANSLATIONAL
RESEARCH NETWORK

www.UNYTE-network.org

