

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes January 20, 2026

Present: Adriana Tremoulet, Adrienne Markworth, Borsika Rabin, Colin Depp, Davey Smith, Gretchen Bandoli, John Ayers, Katie Fisch, Kathryn Gold, Lin Liu, Liz Johnson, Mark Wallace, Maryam Gholami, Mike Hogarth, Paul Watson, Raul Lizarraga, Sam Ward, Suzanne Page

Absent: Christina Chambers, Amertah Perman, Jamison Langguth, Shane Crotty, Stephanie Farrell

Guests: Carlos Rojas, Su-Yin Chang, Karole Ignacio, Bekah Yohe, Blanca Melendrez, Bernadette Cale

Recorder: Nancy Giordanengo

Agenda Item	Notes	Action Items, Comments
Call to Order	Davey Smith called the meeting to order at 2:30pm	
Opening Remarks (Davey Smith)	Davey welcomed Adrienne Markworth, the newest ACTRI Executive Committee member and chair of the Community Advisory Board (CAB).	
Approval of November Meeting Minutes	The committee approved the November meeting minutes by consensus.	
Director's Update – External Advisory Committee Meeting	Davey discussed the upcoming External Advisory Committee (EAC) meeting on March 10. To prepare for the meeting, the Ex Co meeting on February 17 will be extended to two hours (2:00 pm – 4:00 pm) for module presentation rehearsals. Each module will present a summary of their services, work, and current focus during the EAC meeting, using the Translational Science Benefit Model to demonstrate impact.	Presentation instructions, slide deck template, agenda, and UM1 RPPR will be emailed to the speakers.
NCATS CTSA R25 (Adriana Tremoulet)	Adriana presented details about the R25 educational program, emphasizing its focus on research experiences for undergraduates to junior faculty, with a 10-15 week duration and \$100K direct cost per year with a 5 year max period. The overall strategy and analyses were presented along with potential problems, alternative strategies and benchmarks. Application due dates and review and award cycles were highlighted along with allowable and unallowable costs.	Adriana: Create a slide deck and request project ideas within 2-3 weeks.
Translational Research Hub Presentation (Katie Fisch)	Katie discussed potential funding opportunities and service expansion for the new Translational Research Hub, which includes the ACTRI Biobank and the Center for Computational Biology and Bioinformatics. The new hub structure rebrands existing services and introduces Bridging Translational Research Infrastructure, Data analytics, and Genomics (BRIDGE). The hub aims to provide expanded biobank services, data generation, and analysis support.	Katie: Explore presenting at departments to increase awareness of biobank services.

	<p>New hub service lines:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clinical metadata associated with biospecimens • Query-able biorepository with governance structure to request biospecimens • Multi-omics data generation • Biomarker data generation and biomarker validation services • Virtual multi-omics biorepository • Shared biospecimen virtual biorepository 	
<p>Education & Workforce Development (Colin Depp, Adriana Tremoulet)</p>	<p>Faculty Career Development: The K12 Mentored Career Development program has a record number of applications (at least a 50% increase). The program awards 3-year CTS training for 8 early-career faculty.</p> <p>Newly branded Leadership Education and Development (LEAD) program will support salary, mentorship and training for 1-2 years in an ACTRI leadership role. Colin shared details about the 3 scholars that were selected.</p> <p>Didactics: The K12 CTS Career Development seminars include 10 sessions and will relaunch in the summer with an updated curriculum.</p> <p>Plans for an AI workshop series focusing on AI-use in research careers were shared. Colin is in the process of meeting with University of Irvine and identifying experts to collaborate with.</p> <p>Predoctoral Students: The Clinical Research Center (CRC) Bootcamp is recruiting their 2nd cohort (4 students) to start in early March.</p> <p>The CreAting Dedicated Scientists through Research Education (CADRE) program will be recruiting their 3rd cohort (6 students) to begin training in the summer.</p>	
<p>Biomedical Informatics and Data Science (BIDS) (Mike Hogarth)</p>	<p>Mike shared the renaming of Biomedical Informatics (BMI) to Biomedical Informatics and Data Science (BIDS).</p> <p>The 2025 service metrics including completed tickets and data requests totaled 13,575.</p> <p>ACTRI AWS Research Computing Environment: Dec 2025: The new ACTRI-only AWS research environment was sanctioned by HS IS as acceptable for NIST-171 requiring data sets. Jan 2026: VSW v2.0 includes NIST-171 compliant environment, removes reliance on older VSW, lowers costs for VSW and access to LLMs in a HIPPA compliant way.</p> <p>NIST-171 Compliance Process: Required “attestation” must be done by OCGA with assurance/approval from Health Sciences Information Services Security.</p>	

	<p>The finalization of the Human Immune System Explorer (HISE) - Rheumatoid Arthritis National Public database was a success. The collaboration was made possible with Allen Institute for Immunology, Colorado University and UCSD.</p> <p>Funding challenges: Mike announced plans to introduce a yearly subscription service for non-billable services including access to tools like REDCap. A possible scenario is junior faculty will receive a discounted rate, while senior faculty will pay full price.</p>	
<p>Biostatistics, Epidemiology and Research Design (BERD) (Lin Liu)</p>	<p>Lin presented key metrics showing over 120 service requests in 2025 (2/3 pre-award, 1/3 post-award) along with 46 walk-ins. This is a 10% increase from the previous year. The current queue for new requests is approximately one month.</p> <p>BERD Generated 14 manuscripts with 7 being published (4 in December). One being a collaboration with Dr. Nathaniel Schuster that led to a successful manuscript which received the Harold Wolff Award.</p> <p>8 BERD grants were funded in 2025.</p> <p>Lin discussed current staffing challenges and proposed to either hire new staff or collaborate with the School of Public Health graduate program to maintain service levels.</p>	
<p>Pilot Project Awards (Gretchen Bandoli)</p>	<p>Gretchen provided an update on the Pilot program, noting that 7 out of 8 awardee projects are progressing well, with one pending funding due to clinical trial requirements.</p> <p>The current review process for the next round of Pilot applications (76 submissions) is ongoing. Gretchen mentioned considering a return to a two-stage application process and suggested other ideas due to the overwhelming number of reviews. Incentivizing may be something to consider.</p>	
<p>Population Science & Community Engagement (Borsika Rabin)</p>	<p>Borsika share strategic changes including a unit name change to Collaboration, Engagement, Dissemination and Implementation.</p> <p>Community Advisory Board (CAB) leadership and planning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partnering with and onboarding Adrienne Markworth, the new CAB Chair. • Scheduling and planning the next in-person CAB meeting (early February) • Finalizing CAB approval of Strategic Planning and addressing CAB feedback/comments • Defining the process to select the next external advisory member for the CAB <p>Workforce Development:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Onboarding Emily Treichler as a Leadership Academy Fellow (start date: February 1) • K12 & Pilot review integration 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinating with Colin and Gretchen on how CAB/community reviewers can inform K12/Pilot reviews this year (including honorariums) • Serving on the Pilot and K12 review committee (application reviews + long review meetings) • DISC programming: Supporting multiple DISC events in January • UM1 integration: Working with Sam Ward to incorporate D&I consultation/component into UM1 Element E research projects 	
<p>Center for Clinical Research (CCR) (Mark Wallace, Kate Gold)</p>	<p>Mark shared there were 8,465 ACTRI Clinic visits in 2025 which were slightly less than the previous year due to more complex and increased length of several studies. Estimated projections show 2026 increased visits due to the expansion of the L2 Clinic.</p> <p>There have been 67 visits at the Linda Vista clinic with 6 active investigators and 9 activated studies.</p> <p>Rady's has agreed to move coordinators to UCSD with a target date of March 13. They will also use our nurses as this is a requirement.</p> <p>The pharmacy clean room exhaust fan upgrade was completed in December. The final stage of construction is to install the building fan on January 31.</p> <p>The clinic negative pressure room has been verified as working properly by Environmental Health & Safety.</p> <p>Kate shared the Clinical Trial Support Services (CTSS) team has a robust workload overseeing 70 active studies with a waitlist of 3 studies for study start up. Final steps to hire a CRC assistant is underway.</p> <p>The CTSS team is scheduled to provide Florence training to the UCSD Center for Bleeding and Clotting Disorders.</p> <p>The Study Team Townhall (formerly 'Clinical Research Coordinator Town Hall') is scheduled for Feb 4. The findings of the CRC-CTSS Satisfaction Survey that was sent out on Jan 6 will be presented at the town hall.</p>	
<p>Next meeting February 17, 2026 2:00-4:00</p>		