UC San Diego

Altman Clinical and Translational Research Institute

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
August 18, 2026

Present: Adriana (Adri) Tremoulet, Adrienne Markworth, Borsika Rabin, Christina (Tina) Chambers, Colin Depp, Davey Smith, Gretchen Bandoli, John Ayers, Katie Fisch, Kate Gold, Lin Liu, Liz Johnson, Mark Wallace, Maryam Gholami, Mike Hogarth, Raul Lizarraga, Sam Ward, Stephanie Farrell, Suzanne Page

Absent: Amertah Perman, Jamison Langguth, Shane Crotty

Guests: Blanca Melendrez, Karole Ignacio, Kevin Muschter, Marni Jacobs, Parag Patwardhan, Bekah Yohe, Sophie Staschus, Su-Yin Chang, Tom Whisenant

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 welcomed the committee and guests to the meeting.	
Approval of July Meeting Minutes	The committee approved the July meeting minutes by consensus.	
Education & Workforce Development (Colin Depp, Adri Tremoulet)	Adri and Colin presented a comprehensive overview of the Education and Workforce Development continuum, from pipeline programs to faculty development. The third CreAting Dedicated Scientists through Research Education (CADRE) cohort graduated in August. The program is successful and well-received, with a publication underway. The second Clinical Research Coordinator Training Program cohort graduated in June. The 2027 program will be revised to a shortened curriculum and prerequisites. Recent K12 scholars are achieving significant funding milestones; one R01 and two K08s. The K12 Seminar Series will be revamped to include a flipped classroom model to allow more interaction, workshop-style sessions, and more in-person attendees including What's Next & PATHWAYS. The call for K12 applications begins February 2027. The CAB and CETI recruited 20+ community reviewers, however, community and scientific reviewers are still needed during May and June.	Davey: Coordinate a meeting with VCHS John Carethers and the Education team before end of year. Adri, Colin, Maryam: LEAD scholar evaluation framework and metrics.

	Experiential training and mentorship in research administration (LEAD) successfully launched with scholars in BIDS, CEDI, and WD. The next cohort recruitment is planned for fall 2027. What's Next recently launched and is collaborating with the Pilots program to develop grant writing support. The NCATS new policy on K Awards, which prohibits K12 scholars from applying for other K Awards during their first two years has resulted in countermeasures including consulting with the CTSA Program Officer and informing applicants. AI workshops exist on campus with survey interest high, particularly for grant writing and teaching applications. Collaboration with UC Irvine on tracking training programs is underway. A path forward could focus on career-relevant applications (grant writing, teaching) rather than data analysis or system building and community or student-driven approaches over top-down curricula.	
Translational Research Hub (Katie Fisch)	Two new studies were added to the Research Biobank, and the Freezerworks transition is nearly complete. The BRIDGE Lab received three new consults, mostly for biomarkers. The Mesoscale system has been installed and ready for use. CCBB has eight new projects and two new consults. They secured a table at the upcoming UCSD Tech Summit. Thomas Whisenant has been appointed as Associate Director of the Translational Research Hub.	
Biostatistics, Epidemiology and Research Design (Lin Liu)	Lin presented service metrics and productivity highlights, including a fixed effort project with the Veterans Administration slated to begin in October and another to begin in late 2026/early 2027. BERD services was featured in the July 2026 Department of Medicine newsletter. The team will present to their Executive Committee in September.	
Pilot Projects (Gretchen Bandoli)	Gretchen presented mentorship matching for Ina Seltzer, a Pilot awardee in Pathology. For the 2027-28 Pilot Project Awards, the CAB identified priority themes, populations, and research methods aligned with San Diego County health needs. An overview of the Pilots open call timeline from August 2026 – May 2027 was shared.	

Collaboration, Engagement, Dissemination and Implementation (Borsika Rabin, Tina Chambers)	The Community reviewer recruitment goal exceeded expectations with 20+ identified. CalFresh EBT Pilot was selected by UCOP as a UC Health feature story and has yielded three peer-reviewed publications. The Childhood Obesity Initiative is invited to present at the AAP National Conference on October 2. A DISC research poster was accepted to the 2026 Society for Implementation Research Collaboration conference.	
Center for Clinical Research (Mark Wallace, Kate Gold)	Kate provided clinical trial statistics, indicating a steady increase with IRB and FDA work. The new clinical trials invoicing service has launched. A significant finding was the recovery of $174,000 in previously unbilled invoices for a single trial. CRC and CTSS jointly participated in a strategic planning session in July. Also, in July the CCR teams participated in a One CCR Team Building Retreat. Both were successfull events.	
Biomedical Informatics and Data Science (Mike Hogarth)	Mike provided updates on the Biosignals Repository that launched in July. The use of Nightingale and the linked data in the BioSignals repository has been determined to be NHSR (no IRB submission required by investigators using the repository). In anticipation of research involving LLMs, BIDS established an informatics environment with access to HIPAA compliant HS IS approved LLMs. BIDS is creating a mechanism for systematically exporting the Media Tab information in Epic. An integration between Velos and Epic which automatically adds “research records” to a patient’s Epic chart within seconds of being added to Velos has been established.	
Data Hosting and Access (Gretchen Bandoli)	Regarding FIPS 140-3 and NIST SP 800-53 compliance, Gretchen raised a critical infrastructure and policy issue affecting researchers using Medi-Cal data. California health data centers now require validated encryption, which ACTRI currently lacks. Sherlock, a paid service that meets these requirements, is available but comes at a significant cost.	Davey: Discuss with BRAID. Mike: Explore vendor partnerships or Sherlock collaboration with Vice Chancellor's Office. Communicate the FIPS/NIST compliance issue to UCOP legal counsel and relevant UC leadership.
Next meeting Sept. 15, 2:30-4:00pm		