

## ***CREST Core Faculty***

### **Ravindra L. Mehta, M.D.,F.A.C.P.**

*CREST & MAS Degree Program Director  
Professor Emeritus of Medicine  
Department of Medicine, UCSD*



### **J. Allen McCutchan, M.D., M. Sc.**

*Associate Program Director  
Professor Emeritus of Medicine  
Division of Infectious Diseases, UCSD*



### **Raphael Cuomo, PhD., MPH CPH, FRSPH**

*Associate Program Director  
Director, Health Services Research Course  
Director, Data Mgmt. & Informatics Course  
University of California, San Diego*



### **Richard Calvo, PhD**

*Director, Epidemiology I & II Courses  
University of California, San Diego*



### **Sheldon Morris, MD, MPH**

*Director- Patient Oriented Research I & II,  
Division of Infectious Diseases, UCSD*



### **Hemal H. Patel, PhD**

*Director, Scientific Communication Course  
Department of Anesthesiology  
University of California, San Diego*



### **Florin Vaida, Ph.D.**

*Director, Biostatistics Courses  
Dept. of Family Medicine and Public Health  
Division of Biostatistics & Bioinformatics, UCSD*



# *CREST Program*

*Clinical  
Research  
Enhancement through  
Supplemental  
Training*

*For doctoral candidates, postdoctoral fellows,  
junior faculty, and clinical researchers or  
translational researchers.*

# CREST



University of California  
**San Diego**

## *The UCSD's ACTRI-CREST Program*

As part of its initiative to improve the quality of training in clinical research, the NIH has instituted the CTSA Award. The CTSA is intended to stimulate the inclusion of high-quality, multidisciplinary didactic training as part of the career development of clinical investigators. The award supports programs that provide in-depth instruction in the fundamental skills, methodology, theories and conceptualizations necessary for the well-trained, independent clinical researcher.

## **The UCSD Clinical and Translational Research Institute's CREST program**

Entitled Clinical Research Enhancement through Supplemental Training (CREST), it is designed to improve the training of clinician investigators and translational researchers by providing a comprehensive, cohesive infrastructure in an environment which promotes interaction between basic scientists and clinical researchers. Scholars differ in levels of prior training and experience in areas covered by the curriculum, in levels of commitment, and in interests. In order to accommodate the varying needs we have incorporated two mechanisms to permit flexibility while retaining the benefits of structured modular instruction. First, scholars spend the majority of their time working on their primary focus for training as a basic scientist or a clinician investigator. Second, scholars are able to select from two training tracks for participating in the CREST program to supplement their training. Participants are assessed on application to the program for their goals and needs for training in specific areas. In order to accommodate the participants' busy research and clinical schedules, the courses are offered at La Jolla on Wednesdays and/or Thursdays from 4pm -6pm. To accommodate our participants' busy research and clinical schedules, the courses are offered on Wednesdays and/or Thursdays from 4pm -6pm at La Jolla.

The CREST program has a modular format consisting of eight 10-week courses and professional development modules offered over a two-year period. CREST scholars can enroll in any of the individual courses (Track I) or in the full two-year program (Track II). Track II scholars have the option to transfer to the UCSD Masters of Advanced Studies in Clinical Research during the first/second year of training and apply 20 credit of the CREST curriculum credits towards the Masters degree.



## **CREST Courses**

### **Epidemiology I: Summer**

*Topics:* Design and analysis of descriptive, observational and experimental studies, confounding, bias, measurement issues, interpretation.

### **Epidemiology II: Fall**

*Topics:* Application of methods to special populations and research topics, including genetic analyses and meta analyses.

### **Patient Oriented Research I: Summer**

*Topics:* Design and Analysis of Clinical Trials, Statistical Issues, Data Management, Financing, Protocol Implementation, Monitoring

### **Patient Oriented Research II: Fall**

*Topics:* Research Ethics, Regulation of Human Research, Scientific Integrity.

### **Biostatistics I: Summer**

*Topics:* gain an understanding of the principles of measurement of clinical data, learn to recognize data types, and to correctly identify statistical methods appropriate for analysis of a given clinical data set.

### **Biostatistics II: Fall**

*Topics:* This course gives you the skills to understand and conduct advanced bio-statistical analyses including: multiple linear and logistic regression, survival analysis, and Cox and extended Cox regression.

### **Health Services Research: Summer**

To educate you in identifying the most effective ways to organize, manage, finance, and deliver high quality care; reduce medical errors; and improve patient safety

### **Data Management and Informatics: Fall**

This course will provide you with an orientation to database design and management, and covers key issues regarding data handling for clinical research and clinical trials. You will also become familiar with technology assessment and decision-making methods and analysis.

### **Scientific Communication Course: Winter**

**This course covers the key elements of scientific communication skills that are designed to enhance your ability to be a successful clinical researcher.**

### **Professional Development Module**

Seminar Topics:

- Effective Communications: Fall
- Project Mgmt. and Research Budgeting and Billing: Spring

## ***Who should apply?***

The CREST program is for postdoctoral fellows, junior faculty members and doctoral candidates who are interested in pursuing a career in clinical or translational research involving human subjects as well as for pharmacists & nurses involved in clinical or translational research. Program participants need to be affiliated with UCSD. Applicants will be accepted on a space available basis.

## **The CREST program has two tracks:**

### **Track I**

For those who are interested in attending selected modules only. Enrollment is on a space available basis

### **Track II students:**

- Complete 20 unit & earn Adv Certificate in Clinical Research.
- Continue for Master's Degree in Clinical Research

## **Application Deadline:**

Track II: July session - April 30

Track I: year round based on space availability

## **Fees**

UCSD residents, fellows (including laboratory-based fellows), and faculty pay a discounted fee that covers the costs for all lectures, seminars, and course materials, including books.

Application form and other information, can be found on the CREST website: <http://crest.ucsd.edu>

Need additional info, please contact CREST office:

Seble Chernet

CREST Program Manager

Graduate Program Advisor and Coordinator

Office of Advanced Professional Education and Development

UC San Diego Division of Extended Studies

Phone: 858-534-9163

Email: [schernet@ucsd.edu](mailto:schernet@ucsd.edu)

CREST website: <http://crest.ucsd.edu>

For those who are interested in the Master of Advanced Studies in Clinical Research degree, enrollment details and fees can be found at the Masters Degree program web site:

<http://clre.ucsd.edu/>