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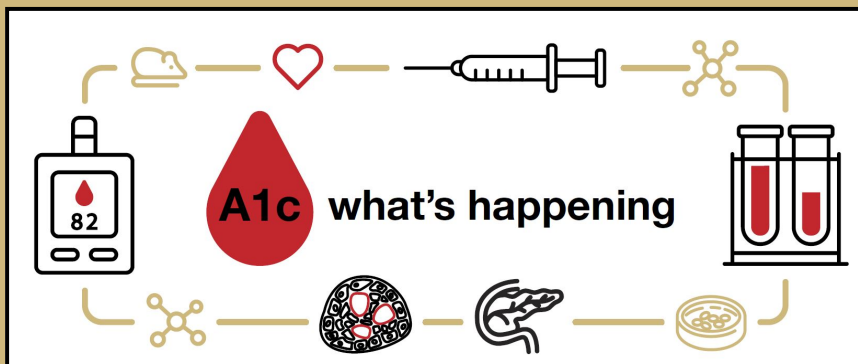


Dear Diabetes Research Center (DRC) Colleagues.

Welcome to the inaugural issue of our monthly CU-DRC Newsletter. The purpose of this newsletter is to keep you informed about DRC events, relevant seminars and important announcements. We will also use this forum to showcase our DRC core services. We hope you find this information useful and welcome your feedback. Please contact us through the link at the bottom of the newsletter to tell us about a diabetes-related story or individual you would like us to feature or click here. The CU-DRC has just begun its third year of funding and we look forward to facilitating and accelerating diabetes research on our campus.

Regards, Lori Sussel
Director, CU Diabetes Research Center

DRC MEMBER ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO CELEBRATE

Drs. Jane Reusch and Jill Norris; Recipients of 2022 American Diabetes Association Awards

Click Here to read the ADA Press Release

Click Here to Read the CU Anschutz Today Feature

Dr. Jane Reusch Receives the 2022 David A. Schawrtz, MD Mentoring Award

Click Here to read about the Mentoring Award

ANNOUNCING OUR 2022 PILOT & FEASIBILITY AWARDEES

Emily Bates, PhD

Associate Professor, Department of Pediatrics, University of Colorado School of Medicine

Jefferson Knight, PhD

Associate Professor, Department of Chemistry, University of Colorado Denver

Nikki Farnsworth, PhD

Assistant Professor, Department of Chemical & Biological Engineering, Colorado School of Mines

Kathleen Woulfe, PhD

Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine, Division of Cardiology and Geriatric Medicine, University of Colorado School of Medicine

Click Here to Read About Their Projects

Q&A with DRC Co-Director, Dr. Jane Reusch

Why are you passionate about Diabetes research?
Diabetes is both common and deadly. It affects the lives of more than half a billion people worldwide and a few of my family members. Just prior to entering medical school my father was diagnosed with type 2 diabetes and my niece was diagnosed with Type 1 diabetes. As I learned about the day to day, year to year burden of a life with diabetes and gained insight into the integrative Physiology of carbohydrate metabolism, I knew I had to work on decreasing the burden of diabetes. As a physician scientist I also wanted my research to bridge important gaps evident in the clinic that we could address in the laboratory. Building upon experience as a cell biologist and protein chemist and the clinical practice of diabetes care I was able to identify some fundamental changes in the context of diabetes that contribute to the long term complications of diabetes. My work over the last decade with Drs. Regensteiner and Nadeau Address a fundamental systemic change in maximal cardiorespiratory fitness that predicts premature mortality and cardiovascular events. It is hard to imagine having the privilege to contribute to more important research that hopefully it holds potential to improve the lives of people living with diabetes.

Who were the pivotal individuals who helped you throughout your career and how did they help?
My primary mentor is and was Dr Boris Draznin. He taught me how to frame important scientific questions and address them using testable hypothesis and sound experimental design. He also taught me the joy of discovery and the fruit of collaboration. Over the years through involvement with career development programs through the AFMR, the ADA, the Endocrine Society, ELAM, the local CCTSI and the Ludeman Family Center for Women's Health research, I met teachers and collaborators, including my own mentees who taught me skills beyond scientific design and experimentation that allow for an impactful and growth oriented career in scientific research.

What were the professional skills that you needed to work on/develop that you didn't realize would make such a difference?
I needed to develop skills in grant writing and scientific communication to clearly and simply communicate gaps, novel ideas and innovative strategies to address those ideas. This kind of writing is fundamentally different from all other forms of communication. I needed to learn by doing grant review and career milestone assessment. I needed to develop executive presence (I am a very enthusiastic individual which sometimes is not taken seriously). I needed to understand how to lead as a woman in what, unfortunately, remains a man's world. I needed to learn to run a business and to negotiate for myself and for my mentees. I needed to understand conflict resolution. and ultimately I needed to understand my own assets and limitations as a leader that I could bring to the field of diabetes and my institution. Finally, I needed to accept that while the imposter syndrome is a real phenomenon, so are the assets that I can bring to my work and our institution.

What would you say to your Junior/Early Career self?
It is true you have the world's best job. As a physician and as yourself you have something to give to your institution and the field of diabetes research and care. Keep the faith you will be a catalyst for the acceleration of research in diabetes on this campus and the impact of women in the field of diabetes.

What makes your current role/roles so rewarding?
The clinical and research teams that I currently work with are extraordinary. I have had the opportunity to help build a beautiful diabetes clinical program at the Rocky Mountain regional VA, to train the next generation of investigators in diabetes and integrative Physiology, to be an advocate for people living with diabetes locally, nationally, and globally. I am now in the right place at the right time to affect change. With support from the Department of Medicine and our recent acquisition of an NIH Diabetes Research Center (led by Dr Lori Sussel with me as co-director) and my continued engagement with the Ludeman Family Center for Women's Health Research (as an Associate Director) we are supporting a phenomenal group of early and mid-career scientists that make AMC a leader in transformational diabetes research.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR FUNDING

HIRN CATALYST AWARD

The Human Islet Research Network (HIRN) announces a new funding initiative to support investigators developing bold, innovative, and challenging projects that will catalyze the field and provide important advances in topics of interest to the network. To be considered "catalyzing", the proposed research must address significant and currently intractable problems by employing approaches or ideas that are currently outside the mainstream of contemporary research. The program is not intended to expand a current research program's funding in the area of the proposed project, but instead must reflect a fundamental new insight or understanding that will revolutionize the field. Catalyzing advances may emanate from the application of exceptionally innovative approaches and/or from testing radically unconventional hypotheses.

Applicants must propose aims focused on an original scientific idea or question that is distinct from current HIRN funded research. However, the scientific focus of an application to the HIRN Catalyst program must fall within the purview of one (or more) of the current HIRN consortia. **Application is due TODAY May 2, 2022**

Click Here for more information

NIH National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases

Click Here to see current NIH NIDDK RFAs

UPCOMING EVENTS

Join the Children's Diabetes Foundation and the Barbara Davis Center for Diabetes at the virtual EPIC (Empowering Patients for Individualized Care) Diabetes Conference on 5/21/22

Click Here to Register

DRC Diabetes Speaker Series

"Uncovering function of beta cell unfolded protein response in Type 1 Diabetes"

Friday, May 13, 2022 12pm (MST)
NHC Building - Shore Family Auditorium

Feyza Engin, Ph.D. - Assistant Professor
Department of Medicine, Division of Endocrinology, Diabetes & Metabolism, School of Medicine and Public Health, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Barbara Davis Center for Diabetes Research in Progress Series

Mondays - 12pm MST
Barbara Davis Center
2nd Floor Main Conference Room
or via Zoom
https://ucdenver.zoom.us/j/92263462343

TODAY - May 2, 2022 - Holly O'Donnell, PhD
May 9 , 2022 - Xiaofan Jia, MD, PhD
May 16, 2022 - Lucas Armitage, PhD
May 23, 2022 - Janet Wenslau, PhD

Save the Date

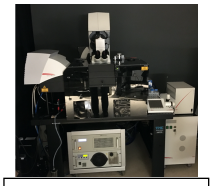
Diabetes Research Center Summer Poster Session

Friday July 29th, 2022
11:00am - 2:00pm (Lunch Provided)
Ed2 South - Student Community Bridge - 2nd floor

Additional details coming soon

Have you considered using a DRC core service?

The DRC contains four biomedical cores that provide services and resources to DRC investigators. These cores are designed to facilitate and broaden CU Denver DRC research by expanding access to shared equipment, enhancing availability and training for emerging technologies, and allowing scientists to have greater access to clinical tissue and data.

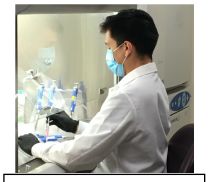


Cell and Tissue Analysis
Access to state-of-the-art multi-color confocal microscopy, flow cytometry analysis and cell sorting services, and expert assistance for mass cytometry and ion-beam imaging technologies.

Learn More about Cell & Tissue Analysis

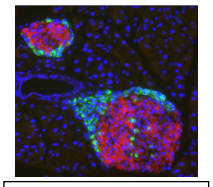
Clinical Resources
Access to an integrated, campus-wide, research registry enabling informatics-based clinical studies.

Learn More about our Clinical Resources



Disease Modeling
Access and training in stem cell technologies for in vitro human disease modeling of diabetes & molecular core services.

Learn More about Disease Modeling



Tissue Procurement & Processing
Access to islet isolation and transplantation services along with access to commonly used cell lines and diabetes-related histology techniques.

Learn More about Tissue Procurement & Processing

Want us to feature you or a colleague on an upcoming DRC newsletter? Have an important research update?

Click Here to Submit a Story to the DRC Monthly Newsletter

Click Here to Follow us on Twitter

Please remember to acknowledge support from the University of Colorado Diabetes Research Center and our associated cores by referencing NIDDK grant #P30-DK116073 in your presentations and publications.

Visit the DRC Website

Contact us