



<h1>FEBRUARY</h1>	<h2>Weekly Research Newsletter</h2> <h3>February 5, 2018</h3>
<p><b>CGH</b>  <b>Recognizes World Cancer Day 2018</b>  World Cancer Day's tagline 'We can. I can.' highlights the international effort – collectively and as individuals – needed to raise awareness and continue making progress toward combatting this disease. In this global battle against cancer, every voice counts.</p>	 <p>Credit: National Cancer Institute</p> <p>On Sunday, February 4<sup>th</sup>, the National Cancer Institute (NCI) recognized <a href="#">World Cancer Day</a><del>Exit Disclaimer</del>, an initiative of the Union for International Cancer Control (UICC). This awareness day provides an opportunity for patients, advocates, researchers, and government officials to come together and raise awareness of the staggering 8.8 million people that lose their life each year to this disease. Thanks to research both in the social and clinical sectors, we're getting closer to understanding how best to prevent and treat many types of cancer.</p> <p><a href="https://www.cancer.gov/about-nci/organization/cgh/blog/2018/wcd-2018">https://www.cancer.gov/about-nci/organization/cgh/blog/2018/wcd-2018</a></p>
<h2>Permian Basin Research Forum 2018</h2>	<h2>You still could make a difference.</h2> <h3>Permian Basin Research Forum</h3>
	<p><u>Members of the medical/scientific community</u>  Please circulate this to your colleagues and/or your department listserv  <u>Non-profit and medical organizations</u>  Please distribute this announcement to your professional members</p> <p><b>NVA Invites Medical Research Proposals</b>  <b>Deadline to Submit Letter of Intent is Monday, February 26, 2018</b>  <b>Deadline to Submit Application is Wednesday, April 18, 2018</b></p> <p>The NVA is seeking research proposals on the causes and treatment of vulvodynia. We are especially interested in studies that may shed light on underlying pathophysiological mechanisms.</p> <p>If you are interested in applying, please send an email to Phyllis Mate (<a href="mailto:pmate@nva.org">pmate@nva.org</a>) by <b>Monday, February 26, 2018</b> that includes a brief (1-2 paragraph) summary of your proposed study's design and objectives. Once we have received this information from you, we will email you a full application to complete and submit by <b>Wednesday, April 18, 2018</b>.</p> <p>The maximum grant amount is between \$25,000 and \$30,000 and we require confirmation that all funds will be applied to direct research costs, not institutional costs. If you've previously applied and/or received grant support from the NVA, you are still eligible to apply. Summaries of studies that NVA has funded to date can be viewed on <a href="#">NVA's web site</a>.</p> <p>We welcome correspondence about potential projects. To discuss your proposal, please contact Phyllis Mate via email (<a href="mailto:pmate@nva.org">pmate@nva.org</a>).</p>
<p>Trouble logging in to iRIS?</p>	<p>Due to changes to the TTUHSC website and depending on what link you have used to log into iRIS, you may find that your usual login route gives you an error.</p> <p>If that happens, use this link:  <a href="https://www.sobmrmedris.ttuhs.edu:8867/Login.jsp">https://www.sobmrmedris.ttuhs.edu:8867/Login.jsp</a></p>
<p><b>GUEST-SPEAKER PRESENTATION VIA TECHLINK FROM TTU (host Dr. Yuriy Kobozev)</b></p> <p><b>TTUHSC at the Permian Basin hosts are</b></p>	

**Dr. Rama Chemitiganti  
and  
Dr. Kalpana Bhairavarasu**

**GUEST SPEAKER**



**Preethi Gunaratne, Ph.D.**  
Associate Professor, Biology & Biochemistry  
Director, UH Seq-N-Edit Core (SNEC)

University of Houston

**Role of Non-Coding RNAs in the Evolution of Precancerous  
Lesions and Drug Resistance**

Monday 02/12/2018 from 12:00 PM - 12:50 PM  
Human Sciences Room 216

**Contacts:**

Dr. Yuri Koboziev ([yuri.koboziev@ttu.edu](mailto:yuri.koboziev@ttu.edu))

Dr. Gunaratne's long-term research goal is to decode the non-coding genome to discover microRNAs and Long-Non-Coding RNAs, involved in regulating protein-coding gene networks that underlie key decision making steps during development and disease. Her lab has established a unique functional genomics platform for identifying critical drivers of biological networks that guide important lineage decisions during development and the perturbation of normal networks in complex disease such as cancer.

# Webinar

## Stepped Wedge Cluster Randomized Designs for Disease Prevention Research

Presented by

**Monica Taljaard, Ph.D.**

Thursday, February 8, 2018 | 12:00 noon – 1:00 p.m. ET

### About This Webinar

The stepped wedge cluster randomized design has seen a rapid increase in popularity over the past decade. It is different than the conventional parallel arm cluster randomized design in that all clusters (e.g., communities, schools, or hospitals), rather than only half, receive the intervention. This presentation will:

- Explain the unique characteristics of the stepped wedge cluster randomized design and its implications for sample size calculation and analysis.
- Discuss the strengths and weaknesses of stepped wedge design compared to traditional designs.

### About Dr. Taljaard

Dr. Monica Taljaard is a Senior Scientist in the Clinical Epidemiology Program at the Ottawa Hospital Research Institute (OHRI) and Associate Professor in the School of Epidemiology and Public Health at the University of Ottawa. She has a Ph.D. in Epidemiology and Biostatistics from Western University, and her main research interests are in the design, analysis, and ethics of cluster randomized trials.

Dr. Taljaard will accept questions during the webinar via WebEx and Twitter. Use the hashtag #NIHMTG.

**Registration is Required**

After you register you will receive a confirmation email with the login information for the webinar.

Can't be there? A recording of [this webinar](#) will be available approximately one week after the session. You can view the full archive of previous [Medicine: Mind the Gap](#) webinars on our website.

For more information, please contact the Office of Disease Prevention at [MindtheGap@od.nih.gov](mailto:MindtheGap@od.nih.gov).

## New from our research collaborators



Ector County Independent School District's chief innovation officer Jason Osborne speaks about bringing TEDx to Odessa during a press conference Thursday afternoon at the Odessa Chamber of Commerce.

The first TEDx event will take place February 24 at The University of the Permian Basin Library Lecture Hall. The Feb. 24 event will run from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the University of Texas of the Permian Basin Library Lecture Hall, 4901 E. University Blvd. The theme is "Moonshot Madness."

The Texas Perinatal Association and TTUHSC-El Paso Department of Pediatrics announce the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Spectrum of Healthcare from Mother to Child Conference

Friday April 28, 2018.

For more information, please see the attached information or contact Jesia Boykin in the Office of Continuing Medical Education at TTUHSC PLFSOM, 915.215.4881 or [jesia.boykin@ttuhsc.edu](mailto:jesia.boykin@ttuhsc.edu).



## Residents' Research Subcommittee

### Goal

To help residents and medical students to achieve excellence in scholarly activities

I welcome all to join in this initiative of innovation ...

"Any idea, suggestion or project is welcome"

"Collaborate with fellow residents and students"

Under supervision of our exceptional research and clinical faculty here at Permian Basin, I, along with subcommittee members, plan to significantly further residents' research portfolio.

I strongly believe that everyone's growth potential is limited only by their desire to discover. **Let's discover this potential together.**

Recruitment in process ...

Feel free to contact @ [ritvij.satodiya@ttuhsc.edu](mailto:ritvij.satodiya@ttuhsc.edu)

Ritvij Satodiya, PGY-1, Psychiatry

TTUHSC at the Permian Basin Residents' Research Subcommittee

Welcome on board!!

## Reminder about listing correct author affiliation

When listing your affiliation for scholarly publications, *please use Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center at the Permian Basin*. Using this name will allow for others to more accurately search for your publications through databases such as PubMed.

Please *do not use* names such as: Texas Tech Health Sciences, Texas Tech University, or TTUHSC.

TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY  
HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER  
School of Medicine

## Collaborative Research Seed Grant Program 2018

Deadline for grant applications: **May 1, 2018**

### Nature of Projects:

- Any area of research.
- This grant program is available to faculty on all SOM campuses.
- Projects must demonstrate a collaborative research initiative between one or more basic scientist and one or more clinical scientist in the SOM.

Amount: Up to 8 grants will be approved with funding up to \$20,000 each for a one-year project to support the preliminary or pilot phase of scientific projects, not to supplement funding already secured. (No salary support for the principal investigators will be provided. Additionally, funding may not be used for travel, renovations, society membership dues, large capital purchases, computers/software, entertainment costs, office supplies/furniture/equipment.)

### Eligibility:

- Seed grant submissions will be due May 1, 2018.
- Seed grant submissions should include the following:
  - Abstract - 1 page
  - Specific Aims - 1 page
  - Introduction, background, research design and methods - up to 4 pages
  - Specific role for each principal investigator - 1 page
  - NIH Bio-sketch for each principal investigator - up to 5 pages
- A detailed budget with brief justification - 1 page (allowable items: research supplies, animal costs, part-time personnel, etc.)
- Other support: list all current and pending extramural support for the last three years, include results from previous SOM seed grants - no limit
- Seed grant submissions that demonstrate a preliminary or pilot phase of scientific projects will be given priority.
- Seed grant submissions that demonstrate a strong possibility for extramural funding will be given priority.

### Contact:

Jannette Dufour, Ph.D.  
Associate Dean for Research  
[Jannette.dufour@ttuhsc.edu](mailto:Jannette.dufour@ttuhsc.edu)


## 2018 Student Research Week

**Save the Date**  
March 20<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2018  
TTUHSC Lubbock Campus

Includes a vendor show, poster competition, and keynote addresses from:

**Dr. Jane Richardson & Dr. Francisco Bezanilla**

**Protein Chronicles:**  
FROM UNKNOWN STRUCTURES  
TO ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS

<p>Information about identifying predatory journals</p>	<p><b><a href="#">The blacklist is dead; long live the blacklist</a></b>  A new <a href="#">watch-list of "predatory" journals and untrustworthy publishers</a> is set to launch later this month — but only for those willing to pay. The service could fill a gap left by Beall's List, a popular blog run by academic Jeffrey Beall that listed potentially predatory journals, which was <a href="#">shut down suddenly</a> five months ago.  <a href="#">Nature</a>   3 min read</p> <p>There is a list of Open Access/Predatory Publishers/Questionable Conferences is available from the CalTech Library at <a href="http://libguides.caltech.edu/c.php?g=512665&amp;p=3503029">http://libguides.caltech.edu/c.php?g=512665&amp;p=3503029</a></p>
<p>Online</p>	<p>Visit TTUHSC at the Permian Basin Research's webpage at: <a href="http://www.ttuhsc.edu/odessa/research/default.aspx">http://www.ttuhsc.edu/odessa/research/default.aspx</a>  And like us on Facebook, visit the page: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/Texas-Tech-University-Health-Science-Center-in-the-Permian-Basin-Research-1612649318999433/">https://www.facebook.com/Texas-Tech-University-Health-Science-Center-in-the-Permian-Basin-Research-1612649318999433/</a></p>
	<p>For questions or to submit an item for the research newsletter contact:  Dr. Natalia Schlabritz-Lutsevich, Associate Regional Dean of Research at <a href="mailto:natalia.schlabritz-lutsevich@ttuhsc.edu">natalia.schlabritz-lutsevich@ttuhsc.edu</a> or Melissa Waggoner, Senior Editor at <a href="mailto:melissa.waggoner@ttuhsc.edu">melissa.waggoner@ttuhsc.edu</a>.</p>