Welcome to Pritzker Summer Research Program(s)

University of Chicago
• Funding requirements vary by agency/”mission”
  – NIH TG “accepts” project based on mentor/mission
  – Stipend set by NIH – is higher but come with additional requirements (SOAR, START courses, abstract, reporting/evaluations)
  – You will receive a “note” if you are on a training grant and the requirements

• This year especially challenging BUT
  – Able to sustain the program
  – AND support allowed us to raise Pritzker stipend to $5800
START Program

• Scholars in Translational Aging Research Training Program
  – required by the National Institutes on Aging
  – Hear about different research & clinical topics related to aging
• Tues or Thursday mornings July-early Aug
• Others are welcome to join
Thank you...

- To those of you took the extra step to apply for external funding!

- David Cao – RSNA
- Alec Kacew- ASH
Covid and SRP

• Resumption of Research Plan does not include “short-term students”
• PIs can submit to reopen with their long term staff (including research year students or MD-PhDs)
• Project you will complete will be “socially distanced” and not require you to come to campus
  – but required to keep up with assignments and events
Uploading Assignments

- [http://srp.uchicago.edu](http://srp.uchicago.edu)

Mentor is the primary approver. If mentor is not available, can ask Cluster Group Leader to approve in extenuating circumstance.
Uploading Assignments

• As of June 12th:
  – Update Name, Mentor, Title
  – IRB/IACUC/Quality Determination
  – References
  – Hypothesis
  – Introduction
Cluster Groups

- **Student Liaisons**
  Student liaisons communicate with faculty and students to arrange meeting times *(including scheduling Zooms)* and take attendance at each meeting *(Who is your Student Leader?)*

- **Faculty Leaders**
  Faculty leaders support and guide your progress through SRP *(assignments, troubleshooting, etc.)*
Cluster Group Names

- Groups named by dominant themes, leader expertise & NIH Mission
  - Due to project variety, some project assignments based on methods or expertise of leader but NOT reflected in title

- Example: Hospital Care/Aging
  - Many projects related to hospital care
  - Several (not all) funded by NIA T35
  - could also include quality of care projects

- Attend first group before asking to switch
Role of the Mentor

• Critical piece of the SRP program
• Goal is to have productive working relationship
  – Find out the best way to interact with your mentor and the mentor’s team
• Facilitate the research you are doing
  – Responsible for specific “needs” related to you project (i.e. specific software, materials, etc.)
  – Sometimes hard to understand how it all fits together until the end…
Common Issues in SRP

• Mentor NOT available
  – Very common for "clinicians"
  – Plan ahead
  – Find out who the other resources in the ‘lab’ are
  – Make it easy for them
    • phone, email, etc
Dr. Valerie Press and Dr. Nicki Orlov

WORKING WITH YOUR MENTOR ON ZOOM
Objective #3: The Paper

- Provide a framework for scientific writing
  - Introduction
    - (see video)
  - Methods
  - Results
  - Discussion

Caution: There may be seasoned writers & researchers in the room

One does not simply write a research paper.
Methods

• Step by step detailed protocol

• In general, 3 main paragraphs
  – Study Design
  – Data Collection
  – Data Analysis
Study Design… including Setting & Population

• Design
  – Retrospective or prospective?
  – RCT, pre-post, observational?

• Setting: Where conducted?
  – Multicenter, single institution, in a lab, in the community.

• Population: Who or what was studied?
  – People, cell lines, etc.
  – In enough detail so reader can assess generalizability

• Often end with IRB/IACUC approval or exemption statement
Data Collection

• Step by step, how was data collected
  – May use sub-sub headings if many types of methods

• Give examples
  – how a survey question was worded & scale used

• Describe any products/instruments used (inc manufacturer) and units reported
  – Reference studies that use these methods or validate these methods

• Past tense
  – since it was done- not copied from IRB app or grant!
Data Analysis

• Calculations used to arrive at the results

• Data were analyzed using . . .
  – Specific tests
  – Qualitative or Quantitative
  – Any software or product used

• How statistical or clinical significance was defined
  – Multiple comparisons may necessitate more conservative p values
Figures/ Graphs / Tables

• Show the data the best you can

• Tables and Graphs should be “stand alone”
  – That is they should convey the meaning of the data without HAVING to read the paper

• Often this will require a legend
  – Be very careful with abbr. - explain in legend
Pitfalls of Methods

• No data analysis section due to a fear of statistics
• Too short
  – Not enough detail to understand study
  – Assuming that others know what your method is
• No mention of IRB/IACUC
• No methods references
Project not working?

• It is OK if…
  – Hypothesis is disproven
  – p value is $>0.05$
  – enrollment is low
  – results are slow

• If a project is NOT working…
  – Meet with mentor to troubleshoot
    – IRB issues? Methodological problem?
    – Change direction?
Need Statistical Help

• **Use your mentor and resources of your mentor’s lab, Dept, colleagues etc.**
  – May have a statistician for the project
  – Or someone they curbside for stats questions

• **Revisit notes from class**

• **If your mentor needs help…**
  – biostatistics assistance available to faculty (and their students)
  – Save for when you need it – at critical point
    • Costs $$$ after 2h of use (to your mentor)
  – [http://biotime.uchicago.edu/](http://biotime.uchicago.edu/)
Welcome to the clinic scheduler.

Sessions are an hour long and are filled on a first come basis.

Sessions are held in our offices located in the Medical Center on the 3rd floor of the Mothers Aid Research Pavilion (MARP - R-corridor) --- directly above the offices in the 2nd floor of Goldblatt (W and G corridors) by the staircase at the west end of the corridor near the entrance to the Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology.

Select an available session below to register.

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Would you attend an intro Stata session?
If so, please sign up!
Disclosures:
- I teach it
- I am not a statistician
- But I am decent with basic commands and regression
- All of you have access to STATA via VPN remote access
EPIC Access

- All rising MS2 students should continue to have EPIC access

- If you don’t log in to EPIC regularly, your account may be soft-deleted (so...log in)

Trouble logging in?
Sheena Brown
sjbrown39@bsd.uchicago.edu
Kate Blythe
kblythe@bsd.uchicago.edu
Logistics

• Final presentation dates/times on website
  – August 26\textsuperscript{th} & 27\textsuperscript{th}
  – Posted in the next week or two
  – \textbf{Invite mentor, family & friends}

• Payment – Pritzker level base is $5800
• Made in 2 installments
  • mid & end of summer
  – \textbf{Requires assignments submitted & validated}

Check #1 mailed before July 6\textsuperscript{th} to address on W9
What are the hours?

- Expectation is full-time
- Natural ebb & flow
  - May feel like it's easy now...
  - "Crunch time" as final paper & presentation nears
- Plan ahead
Free time?

• Take initiative
  – Talk to your mentor about a related project
  – Troubleshoot difficulty

• Work ahead to prevent crunch time
  – Paper
  – Power point (July lecture)
Tips to Surviving SRP

• Focus on the process and making sure you are on top of your assignments
  – Results should come eventually and sometimes no way to ‘force’ them
  – Figure out how to troubleshoot & consider plans B & C
  – Sometimes you have to change your hypothesis to accommodate this change, too
Tips to Surviving SRP

- The timeline to produce anything meaningful is LONG
- People spend their whole lives on making one breakthrough
- You have 10 weeks
  - This is in some ways a ‘jumpstart’ to learning about research and your interests
Tips to Surviving SRP

• Do not focus on “publishing” a paper
  – Will just annoy your mentor
    • Want to see you genuinely interested in work

• Think about more appropriate dissemination for a first step
  • SRP Forum counts!
  • Internal conferences “Dept of Surgery Research Day”
  • Regional or national conference

  – The first step is submitting an abstract
SRP Session #3

• Authorship Workshop
  – Led by Dr. Wolfson
  – Part of REQUIRED research ethics curriculum

• Effective Scientific Presentations
  July 20\textsuperscript{th} - 10:00am
  – What you need to know to present at SRP Forum
  – Writing an abstract
SRP Questions

• That your mentor or cluster group leader can’t answer…

• Kate Blythe/Candi Gard for ALL LOGISTIC questions (Epic, stata, lecture recording etc.)

• Me AND KB/CG for all else…
Thank you...

...and have a great summer!!