Charting our Path...

Vanderbilt Shared Resource & Core Retreat

EST. 2018

September 12, 2018
8am thru 5pm
Scarritt Bennett Center
We want to welcome you all to the 2018 VU & VUMC Shared Resource & Core Retreat!

As the Organizing Committee, we want to thank you for registering and sharing your time with us. We are excited to bring to you a number of professional development and networking sessions that we hope meet your needs as a core director, administrator, manager, or staff member. The sessions were based off of the results of a survey that you completed months ago. This is the first retreat specifically tailored to the professional development of Vanderbilt Shared Resource and Core personnel.

We hope you all enjoy!

Sincerely,

Kim Dahlman, PhD
Assistant Professor of Medicine (Hematology/Oncology) &
Director, Innovative Translational Research Shared Resource, VUMC

Amy Martinez, PhD
Program Officer, VUMC Office of Research

Jenny Schafer, PhD
Research Assistant Professor & Managing Director, Cell Imaging Shared Resource, VU

Anthony Tharp, PhD
Director of Operations for VU Cores, Office of the Dean of Basic Sciences VU SOM,
Department of Cell and Developmental Biology, Vanderbilt Brain Institute

Paige Vinson, PhD
Research Assistant Professor, Director, High Throughput Screening Facility, VU
8:00–8:30am  Continental Breakfast

8:30–8:50am  Opening Remarks
Anthony Tharp, PhD, Larry Marnett, PhD, Susan Meyn & Chuck Sanders, PhD

8:50–9:50am  Long-Term Strategic Planning
Robert Grajewski

9:50–10:15am  Coffee Break

10:15–11:15am  So Many Potential Customers, So Little Revenue
Joe Rando

11:15–12:15pm  Metrics of Success & Surveying Core Performance
Susan Meyn & Martha Shrubsole, PhD

12:15–1:15pm  Lunch in Susan Gray Dining Hall

1:15–2:15pm  Shared Resources Funding: Grants for Equipment, Salary, and Research
Jenny C. Schafer, PhD
Robert Carnahan, PhD
Lesa Black, PhD, CCRP
Joshua Bauer, PhD
Amy Martinez, PhD
Hilda McMackin, PhD

2:15–3:15pm  SOP Writing & Document Control for the Research Laboratory
Zahra Yi, PhD, NRCC

3:15–3:30pm  Coffee Break

3:30–4:30pm  Lean: A New Way of Thinking
Aaron Shaull

4:30–4:45pm  Concluding Remarks
Anthony Tharp, PhD & Kim Dahlman, PhD
Lawrence J. Marnett, Dean of Basic Sciences, is the Director of the A. B. Hancock, Jr. Memorial Laboratory for Cancer Research, Mary Geddes Stahlman Professor of Cancer Research, and University Professor of Biochemistry, Chemistry, and Pharmacology. After receiving his Ph.D. in Chemistry from Duke University in 1973 and pursuing postdoctoral work at the Karolinska Institute and Wayne State University, Marnett joined the Chemistry Department at Wayne State where he rose through the ranks to Professor. His research program focuses on the role of the enzyme cyclooxygenase-2 in cancer and inflammation and on the contribution of normal metabolism to the generation of DNA damage and mutation. He is the author of over 450 research publications and 10 patents. After coming to Vanderbilt in 1989, Marnett served as Associate Director of Basic Research of the Vanderbilt Ingram Cancer Center (1993–2002), Director of the Vanderbilt Institute of Chemical Biology (2002–2014), and Associate Vice Chancellor for Research and Senior Associate Dean for Biomedical Sciences for the Vanderbilt University Medical Center (2014–2016). The founding editor-in-chief of the American Chemical Society journal, Chemical Research in Toxicology, Marnett received the first Founders Award of the American Chemical Society Division of Chemical Toxicology. Among his other awards are The Wayne State University President’s Award for Excellence in Teaching, the American Cancer Society Faculty Research Award, the Sigma Xi Research Award, the Michigan Association of Governing Boards Distinguished Faculty Award, the Wayne State University Distinguished Graduate Faculty Award, an NCI Outstanding Investigator Award, the Harvey Branscomb Distinguished Professorship, and Vanderbilt’s Stanley Cohen Prize.

Susan Meyn is the director for Research Resources and Strategy in the Vanderbilt University Medical Center (VUMC) Office of Research. In that role, she enables development of and access to research infrastructure and shared resources; defines and implements academic strategic plans; contributes to development of competitive research grant applications and facilitates collaborations across biomedical science disciplines. Her team provides operational support to VUMC’s scientific cores and other academic enterprise-wide initiatives. Susan earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Medical Technology from the Catholic University of America in Washington D.C.; she has over 25 years of experience managing laboratories, mentoring students and trainees, and advancing biomedical research in clinical, NIH and academic settings. Susan moved to Nashville 2001 to take a position at Vanderbilt University Medical Center (VUMC) managing the research laboratory for the Director of the Vanderbilt University Center for Structure Biology, including several small core labs. Susan transitioned to research administration in the VUMC Office of Research in 2007. Susan was raised and educated the Washington D.C. area, where she met and married her husband Paul Cain, also a D.C. native. She enjoys books and films, gardening and bird watching, and traveling with friends and family.
Robert Grajewski is a serial entrepreneur and investor who is best known for his expertise in building businesses and leading high-performing teams to achieve outstanding results. Robert has a passion for identifying, fostering, and developing innovation while motivating others to pursue projects that transform the way we live. As the Evans Family Executive Director of the Wond’ry, Vanderbilt’s Innovation Center, Robert’s main purpose is to foster a culture of exploration, innovation and “making.” His efforts include offering students a rich intellectual community and immersive experiences; investing in multi and interdisciplinary programs; building programs that offer innovative, effective solutions to pressing societal problems; and transforming education models through technology and research. Likewise, Robert serves as the primary liaison to those in the community who would like to engage with the innovation and entrepreneurship culture at Vanderbilt University.

Robert received an MBA from The Wharton School (University of Pennsylvania), an MPA from Harvard Kennedy School, and an AB degree from Harvard University.

Charles (Chuck) Sanders, Associate Dean for Research, has been on the faculty of the Biochemistry Department since 2002 and is an active member of the Center for Structural Biology. Chuck’s research interests focus on the role of membrane proteins, especially with flexible or unfolded structures, in the pathophysiology of cardiovascular and neurologic disorders. Chuck has won many awards for his research including the Hans Neurath Award of the Protein Society and the Stanley Cohen Award of Vanderbilt University School of Medicine. He has been a very active participant on research committees at Vanderbilt (e.g., Co–chair of TIPs Review Panel) and has served on multiple NIH study sections. He was Associate Editor of the journal, Biochemistry, from 2004–2015 and was interim Editor-in-Chief from 2015 to 2016.
Dr. Martha Shrubsole is Research Professor in epidemiology at Vanderbilt University Medical Center where she is also the Director of the Survey Research Shared Resource and the Associate Director of the International Epidemiology Field Station at VUMC. A major focus of Dr. Shrubsole’s research is to identify modifiable factors for the prevention of precursor lesions for gastrointestinal cancer. Areas of interest include nutrients such as one-carbon metabolism, inflammatory markers, gut microbiome, and molecular characterization of colorectal polyps.

Joe Rando

Joseph Rando is the Director of Vanderbilt’s Managerial Studies Program and is an Associate Professor of Management and Entrepreneurship. Mr. Rando is the founder or co-founder of several ventures in the Nashville area, which include Heath Island Group, Heath Island Enterprises, and VMR Properties, engaged in business consulting, restaurant management, and real estate development. Heath Island Group is a private capital firm and delivers business consulting to high-growth, entrepreneurial ventures. Through Heath Island Group, Mr. Rando has invested in startups in healthcare, HR management, business analytics software, micro beer, restaurant management, travel and tourism, and other industries. Each year, Mr. Rando advises dozens of new ventures through the development, start-up, and early operations phases. Heath Island Enterprises is a restaurant management company and owned and operated Dunkin’ Donuts and Baskin–Robbins outlets in Middle Tennessee from 2005 to 2014. Prior to these ventures, Mr. Rando was with Asurion, where he spent seven years as SVP of Operations. Prior to Asurion, Mr. Rando held management, senior leadership, and executive positions with Boston–based Faneuil Group, Connecticut–based New Science Associates, and Chicago–based Pansophic Systems. He has served on for-profit and non-profit boards for the Middle Tennessee YMCA in Brentwood, the TJMartell Cancer Research Foundation, the Dunkin Donuts Community Foundation, the Wrigley Foodservice Advisory Board, Vanderbilt Student Media, and Learning Matters Inc.

Martha Shrubsole, PhD

Dr. Martha Shrubsole is Research Professor in epidemiology at Vanderbilt University Medical Center where she is also the Director of the Survey Research Shared Resource and the Associate Director of the International Epidemiology Field Station at VUMC. A major focus of Dr. Shrubsole’s research is to identify modifiable factors for the prevention of precursor lesions for gastrointestinal cancer. Areas of interest include nutrients such as one-carbon metabolism, inflammatory markers, gut microbiome, and molecular characterization of colorectal polyps.
Dr. Carnahan received his BS in Biology and BS in Psychology from Indiana University. After several years working for Eli Lilly in the US and in Strasbourg, France, he returned to academics as a visiting researcher at the Institut Pasteur in Paris, France. He subsequently returned to the US to complete his Ph.D. in Cell Biology at Vanderbilt University where he studied the mechanisms regulating actin ring formation and activation in cytokinesis in the laboratory of Kathy Gould, Ph.D. His post-doctoral studies in the laboratory of Al Reynolds, Ph.D. focused on the functions of both the cell adhesion regulator p120 and its interaction partner Kaiso. In 2006, he was appointed as Director of the Vanderbilt Antibody and Protein Resource (VAPR). In 2010 he co-founded the Antibody-Technologies Research Group. This international group, part of a larger scientific organization (Association of Biomolecular Resource Facilities), collaborates to develop technical standards, advances in methodologies, and training opportunities for antibody lab directors and personnel. Within the Association of Biomolecular Resource Facilities he has also served in numerous other national and regional leadership roles, including most recently as the President of the Southeastern chapter from 2015–2016. After leading the VAPR core lab for over ten years, recently accepted a new position as Director of Research within Vanderbilt Vaccine Center.

Jenny Schafer earned a BS in Biology from Rhodes College in Memphis, TN and a PhD in Cell Biology from the University of Alabama at Birmingham where she studied cilia formation in C. elegans. She came to Vanderbilt in 2006 for a postdoctoral fellowship with Jim Goldenring in the Epithelial Biology Center to study vesicle trafficking. In 2014, Jenny joined the Cell Imaging Shared Resource (CISR). In 2017 she became the Managing Director of the Vanderbilt Cell Imaging Resource. Jenny’s microscopy experience includes confocal imaging, TIRF, live cell imaging, super-resolution microscopy, FRET, vesicle tracking, and more.

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Dr. Bauer currently leads the high-throughput screening team to facilitate the development and implementation of technologies to enable the discovery of chemical modulators of a variety of molecular targets and pathways in cancer cell biology. He also helps develop pharmacological discoveries for anti-cancer agents and identify new lead compounds that benefit both mechanistic studies and drug discovery/development. His research interests are focused on bioinformatic and chemical genomic approaches to identify novel cancer targets and to better understand the molecular and genetic mechanisms that underlie how cancer cells respond to therapeutics. A main goal is to identify novel strategies to overcome therapy resistance that will have clinical application. Dr. Bauer received his B.S. from the University of Wisconsin–Madison and his Ph.D. from the University of Michigan.

Lesa Black, PhD

Lesa Black, Ph. D. is a Scientific Review Analyst (SRA) and lead for the VICTR/Scientific Review Committee Team that supports the VICTR Funding Program. Dr. Black acquired her Ph. D. in Biomedical Sciences from Morehouse School of Medicine in Atlanta, GA in 2005. She received postdoctoral trainings at Vanderbilt University Medical Center in Microbiology and Immunology followed by Clinical Pharmacology. As an SRA, she provides comprehensive guidance and assistance to investigators and their teams through the entire VICTR resource application process, which includes submission, pre-review, application presentation, and amendments, as well as assists investigators and research staff in developing regulatory applications and protocols. She works with VUMC/VU/MMC departments or institutes to modify the review process for RFA opportunities and to establish external applications for their use that utilize the StarBRITE application infrastructure.

In addition to this role, Dr. Black functions as the Mid-South Clinical Data Research Network (CDRN) Navigator. She works closely with internal and external investigators to assist them with accessing MSCDRN resources or tools across the system to conduct pragmatic research that fits seamlessly into healthcare operations.

Joshua Bauer, PhD

Dr. Bauer currently leads the high-throughput screening team to facilitate the development and implementation of technologies to enable the discovery of chemical modulators of a variety of molecular targets and pathways in cancer cell biology. He also helps develop pharmacological discoveries for anti-cancer agents and identify new lead compounds that benefit both mechanistic studies and drug discovery/development. His research interests are focused on bioinformatic and chemical genomic approaches to identify novel cancer targets and to better understand the molecular and genetic mechanisms that underlie how cancer cells respond to therapeutics. A main goal is to identify novel strategies to overcome therapy resistance that will have clinical application. Dr. Bauer received his B.S. from the University of Wisconsin–Madison and his Ph.D. from the University of Michigan.
Hilda McMackin, PhD

Hilda received her Ph.D. in Cognitive Psychology at Vanderbilt in the School of Arts & Sciences in 2009 and immediately began her career at Vanderbilt serving as a Lab Manager in Peabody’s Department of Psychology and Human Development. Hilda joined the Institute for Software Integrated Systems (ISIS) in the School of Engineering in 2014 to assist with the development of an $18.5M interdisciplinary Engineering Research Center proposal and has since served as the Grants and Contracts Manager and primary resource for proposal development in the institute. She has worked with a diverse research portfolio including AFRL, ARPA-E, DARPA, DOD, DOE, DOT, IARPA, NASA, NIST, NSF, IES, and Industry sponsors. She is an author of several peer-reviewed journal articles and an active participant in the research administration community at Vanderbilt.

Amy Martinez, PhD

Amy Martinez, PhD, serves as Program Officer for the Office of Research at Vanderbilt University Medical Center. She joined the Office in 2017 to provide program and project management and process development expertise to the School of Medicine research enterprise. Responsibilities in her role include managing limited-submission grants and awards, providing support to institutional research initiatives, revamping core advisory processes, aiding internal funding programs, tracking performance metrics, and contributing to the development of student and post-doc policies. Dr. Martinez earned her BS in Chemical Engineering from the University of Alabama (Tuscaloosa, AL). She then pursued a PhD and brief post-doc in Biomedical Engineering at Duke University (Durham, NC), developing an optical imaging strategy to study breast cancer metabolism. Not surprisingly, she now spends ample time watching SEC football and ACC basketball, along with serving on the Duke Nashville Women’s Forum steering committee and exploring the city with her fellow-engineer husband, Tito.
Aaron Shaull holds a master’s degree in Psychology and is currently a Learning Consultant in the Learning and Development department at Vanderbilt University Medical Center (VUMC). Aaron’s primary role is to develop and teach a Lean process improvement curriculum to VUMC staff at all levels. Aaron recently spoke at the Tennessee Initiative for Perinatal Quality Care (TIPQC) Annual Meeting, The Meharry Medical College TedMed Live event, and the Monroe Carell Jr. Children’s Hospital at Vanderbilt Quality Academy. Prior to joining VUMC, Aaron worked for over three years as a contractor with the United States Army delivering performance enhancement and resilience psychology training across the country to soldiers of numerous ranks and specialties. In all, he’s created and delivered engaging training to over 3,000 individuals across the country in military, healthcare, sport, and higher education settings.

Zahra Shajani Yi, PhD is currently an assistant professor in the department of Pathology, Microbiology and Immunology at Vanderbilt University Medical School. She is associate director of the clinical chemistry laboratory and medical director of the esoteric chemistry laboratory at Vanderbilt University Medical Center. Dr. Yi completed her clinical chemistry fellowship at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center in Lebanon, NH. She holds a B.Sc in Chemistry from the University of British Columbia and a PhD in Chemistry from the University of Washington. She also spent four years as a post-doctoral fellow at the Scripps Research Institute in La Jolla, California researching ribosome assembly by mass spectrometry. Dr. Yi’s primary clinical and research interests are in endocrinology and laboratory test utilization.
Anthony C. Tharp, PhD

Anthony Tharp, Ph.D. is an Assistant Director for the Dean of the Vanderbilt School of Medicine Basic Sciences (VBS). Dr. Tharp supports the VBS with a wide variety of needs such as facilities, infrastructure, risk management, capital assets, institutional letters of support and commitments and special projects such as the SOM Core Retreat. He received his Bachelors in Neurosciences from Vanderbilt University and a Ph.D. in Pathology, Microbiology and Immunology (PMI) from Vanderbilt University. After completing his 1st postdoctoral training where he studied microbial infections related to Multiple Sclerosis infections at a MS lab in the Departments of Neurology at Vanderbilt University. He then redirected his career and became a Sales Manager for AT&T for five years to learn business and management skills at a Fortune 50 company. Dr. Tharp came back to Vanderbilt and completed a 2nd postdoc in PMI where he studied Staph, Strep and viper venom and how they hijacked the normal coagulation system. In July of 2012, he began a career of supporting the research enterprise administratively and scientifically by managing a core in Cell and Developmental Biology and fulfilling other departmental needs such as managing the Space and Capital Equipment surveys and renovations. In 2016, Dr. Tharp was hired by Dr. Marnett, Dean of VBS, to assist with administrative support for the School in the post-legal separation world in which we now live.

Kimberly D. Dahlman, PhD

Dr. Dahlman is an Assistant Professor of Medicine (Division of Hematology/Oncology) and Director of the Innovative Translational Research Shared Resource (ITR) in the Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center (VICC) at VUMC. Her research interest is determining how genomic alterations modulate tumor growth and response to standard-of-care and investigational targeted therapies and immunotherapy, with the overall goal of uncovering novel cancer therapeutic targets. As ITR Director she designs and manages correlative study workflow, quality assurance, and quality control for cancer clinical trials. In addition to her research interests, Dr. Dahlman has demonstrated leadership in education for biomedical science PhD trainees, medical students, postdoctoral fellows, practicing oncologists, and core facility directors. She currently oversees the development and execution of 16 Integrated Science Courses (ISCs) and is course co-founder and co-Director for the “Clinical Cancer Medicine” ISC at the Vanderbilt University School of Medicine (VUSM). She is an elected Member of the Academy for Excellence in Education and Member-at-Large on the Academy Board. Recently, she was given the designation of Mater Science Teacher from VUSM. Dr. Dahlman is also President of the Southeastern Association of Shared Resources and is a member of the Executive Committee where she oversees the development and execution of a regional professional development meeting for core directors, managers, administrators, and staff.
We would like to thank Vanderbilt University and Vanderbilt University Medical Center for their generous financial support of this retreat. In particular, we would like to thank Susan Meyn (Director, Research Resources & Strategy, Office of Research, VUMC) and Larry Marnett, PhD (Dean of the Vanderbilt School of Medicine Basic Sciences and Professor of Biochemistry, Chemistry, and Pharmacology, VU) for allocating resources for the programming.

We would also like to thank Rob Carnahan, PhD (Associate Professor of Pediatrics—former Director of VAPR) and Kevin Weller (Managing Director, Flow Cytometry Core) for their initial help with the retreat planning.

Finally, we would like to thank Hastings Housden-Benitone, Marc Wozniak, & Jamye O'Neal who helped make this retreat possible.