Training and Partnering:
Visiting Scholars Program

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Frederick National Laboratory Endeavors to...

• Maximize impact on cancer research, diagnostics and drug discovery/development through state-of-the-art science and technology;

• Encourage extramural access to the intellectual capital and facilities of the only federal national laboratory in the United States devoted exclusively to biomedical research

• Facilitate research collaborations and enhance professional training to accelerate progress

Our training efforts contribute to all three objectives
### Broad Array of Visiting Scientist Opportunities at FNLCR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>Relevant Programs</th>
<th>Non-Program Mechanisms</th>
<th>Average # per year at FNLCR</th>
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</thead>
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<td>Gov</td>
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<tr>
<td>HS Students</td>
<td>Training</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>-</td>
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<tr>
<td>Undergrad Students</td>
<td>Training</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>-</td>
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<tr>
<td>Post-Baccalaureate Students</td>
<td>Training</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>-</td>
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<tr>
<td>Graduate Students</td>
<td>Training</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>-</td>
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<tr>
<td>Postdocs</td>
<td>Training; Contributes Skilled Labor</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>VSP</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mid-Career and Established Investigator</td>
<td>Full R&amp;D collaboration; Exchange of skills and ideas; Some training</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>VSP</td>
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</table>

**Training mission – Students at all levels**

Senior visitors are generally identified by PI and focus on a single research program

Visiting Scholar Program (VSP) is an FNLCR-Level Program to systematically identify senior researchers who will both learn and contribute to the FNLCR mission, across programs, agencies, and affiliations.
The Visiting Scholar Program Adds Value

VSP Integrates multiple visiting scientist approaches at FNL level

- Common outreach to leverage government and contractor programs

VSP adds new functionality

- Define specific opportunities to recruit for
- Seek more advanced researchers with reciprocity in training and learning
- Greater breadth in funding mechanisms

Programmatic approach provides cohesiveness and coordination for attracting and engaging visiting researchers
Visiting Scholar Program Kick-start with Sponsor-defined Opportunities

Affinity Reagents
Developing a portfolio of novel approaches to generate affinity reagents against proteins differentially expressed in cancer cells.

Proteomics
Developing a cost-attractive, multiplexed assay that is easily accessible to physicians and uses mass spectrometry to quantitatively measure cancer-associated proteins in tissue or fluid clinical samples.

Virus Genomics
Apply state-of-the-art sequencing and analysis capabilities and develop new analysis strategies for cancer-causing viruses. Focus on human papilloma viruses (HPV) and Kaposi’s sarcoma herpesvirus (KSHV).

Advanced Preclinical Research
Visiting Scholars will work with NCI Center for Advanced Preclinical Research (CAPR) researchers to address challenges in the use of Genetically Engineered Mouse Models (GEMMs) to accelerate biomarker/molecular discovery, and improve utility in predicting therapeutic outcomes.
Advertising the VSP

FNL Office of Communications & NIH Office of Communications and Education (OCE)

- VSP Web Pages
- Brochures
- Social Media
- Banner Ads and Newsletters in Nature, Biotechniques, Genomeweb
- Email to select NIH contacts, 8 interest groups, 19 NCI DOCs, 11 external societies, institutes, organizations
Broad Response to Initial Proposals: Success Indicators

In ~45 days (Apr 1 – May 16):
- 2,719 Visitors to VSP web pages
- 45 inquiries to Visiting Scholar e-mail box
- 20 Expressions of Interest submitted
- Mostly mid-career & established researchers
- Range of resource requested $0 to $100k
- Duration 2 days to 2 years

International Interest

US, Argentina, Brazil, Canada, China, India, Kenya, Korea, Sweden, Turkey, United Arab Emirates
Response to Initial Proposals

Notable opportunities

• Senior scientist from Pacific Northwest Laboratories (FFRDC) with experience on biomarker discovery and development wishes to explore a “sabbatical” at FNLCR to work on Proteomics and Affinity Reagents proposals
  – Visit and seminar planned

• Novel models for cost-sharing between FNLCR and other academic and government agencies proposed

• References to other visiting scientist programs provided to some candidates, as appropriate
Next Steps for the Visiting Scientist Program

• Complete evaluations of existing proposals and establish first Visiting Scientist scholars at Frederick National Lab
  – “Sponsor” lab (funding source) makes final decision
  – Goal – 45 day turnaround time from completion of initial vetting to final decision

• Expand participation & opportunities within FNLCR programs (FY 2013 and beyond)
  – Expand breadth of investigator-sponsored proposals
  – Optimize outreach and advertising based on 2012 results

• Develop metrics to assess impact of Visiting Scholars
What We Ask of You

• **Engage!** Help us spread the word to attract potential sponsors, eminent scholars and candidate research & technology development partners

• Suggest ways to improve the VSP

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• *or visit our website* : [http://web.ncifcrf.gov/VisitingScholar](http://web.ncifcrf.gov/VisitingScholar)