

# Collaborations between Translational Science Programs and Academic Health Sciences Libraries

Sandra Burks<sup>1,2</sup>, Jill Deaver<sup>3</sup>, Emily Glenn<sup>4</sup>, Kristi Holmes<sup>5</sup>, Bart Ragon<sup>1,2</sup>, Alisa Surkis<sup>6</sup>, Megan von Isenburg<sup>7</sup>, Elizabeth C. Whipple<sup>8,9</sup>

1 Integrated Translational Health Research Institute of Virginia, 2 University of Virginia, 3 University of Alabama at Birmingham, 4 University of Nebraska Medical Center, 5 Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine, 6 New York University, 7 Duke University, 8 Indiana University School of Medicine, 9 Johns Hopkins University

## Objectives/Goals

Collaborations between translational science programs and academic health sciences libraries (AHSLs) can enhance research by:

- improving efficiency
- leveraging diverse professional expertise
- expanding collaboration opportunities between librarians and translational science programs

## Methods

- Team science approach: literature review, practical experiences of health sciences librarians, and collaborative writing.
- Analysis of case studies from institutions with successful partnerships explored the roles of AHSLs in partnering with translational science programs.
- Data collected and mapped to the CTSA Program’s five functional areas outlined in the Notice of Funding Opportunity PAR-24-272.
- Librarians from 21 institutions engaged in discussions and collaborative writing to share insights and identify key factors driving successful partnerships.

## Results

AHSLs enhance translational science by managing knowledge, facilitating research dissemination, and supporting collaboration. Successful partnerships improve workflows, foster researcher interactions, and accelerate discoveries into clinical settings, offering a model for other institutions to adopt best practices in supporting translational science.



<https://bit.ly/CTSAlibrary>

## Library contributions and partnerships that can support local translational science efforts

- |  | WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY | COLLABORATION | SCHOLARLY IMPACT | DATA SERVICES | KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT |
|--|--------------------------------|---------------|------------------|---------------|----------------------|
| • Serve as members of the leadership team and advise on information planning and strategy; provide partnership and support for the TSH infrastructure  |                                | •             | •                |               | •                    |
| • Act as a liaison between libraries at partner and collaborating institutions   |                                | •             | •                |               |                      |
| • Contribute to CTSA consortium activities, such as scientific, training, governance, & workgroups   | •                              | •             | •                |               |                      |
| • Manage faculty profile systems and/or the information resources used to populate these systems   | •                              | •             | •                | •             | •                    |
| • Evaluation services and resources  | •                              | •             | •                | •             | •                    |
| • Provide resources and support for marketing and dissemination strategies   | •                              | •             | •                |               |                      |
| • Resources, services, and training for investigators, trainees, and staff (e.g., consultation services, resource guides, workshops, programming and invited speakers, etc.)   | •                              | •             | •                | •             | •                    |
| • Provide guidance and expert services for clinical research staff (e.g., instruction, consultation support, development of curricula) on relevant topics such as research rigor and reproducibility, IRB and/or IACUC, team science, data management planning, open science, metadata, critical appraisal, etc. | •                              |               |                  |               | •                    |
| • Repository and data catalog resources and services   |                                | •             | •                | •             | •                    |
| • Support vendor communications and licensing of software or other information resources; consult about the licensing of resources for institutional partners, including navigation of legal aspects of resource sharing   |                                | •             |                  | •             | •                    |
| • Training and workforce development   | •                              |               | •                |               | •                    |
| • License, manage, & provision scientific software via an institutional software hub   |                                |               | •                | •             | •                    |
| • Meet with pilot teams early in their work to provide guidance and resources that support good data practices, establish tracking of research outputs, and support dissemination strategies   |                                |               | •                |               | •                    |
| • Contribute to onboarding activities; assist with integrating new employees   | •                              | •             | •                |               |                      |
| • Develop user agreements to maximize the adoption, implementation, or use of educational content, innovations, tools, data, and software developed  | •                              | •             | •                | •             | •                    |
| • Support community-based research and equitable access to resources   | •                              | •             | •                | •             | •                    |

## Discussion

By combining resources and expertise between libraries and translational science programs, these partnerships enhance the ability to transform scientific discoveries into real-world clinical applications, drive innovation, and amplify the contributions of both libraries and translational science programs.

## Citation

Ragon B, Seymour A, Whipple EC, Surkis A, Haberstroh A, Muilenburg J, Rethlefsen ML, Aspinall EE, Deaver J, Dexter N, Barger R, Contaxis N, Glenn EJ, Hinton E, Kern B, Little M, Pickett K, Sevetson E, Tao D, von Isenburg M, Werner DA, Wheeler TR, Holmes K. The role of information science within the clinical translational science ecosystem. J Clin Transl Sci. 2024 Nov 27;8(1):e224. doi: 10.1017/cts.2024.664. PMID: 39801680; PMCID: PMC11713432.

## Funding

This work was supported, in part, through the following National Institutes of Health NCATS and National Institute of General Medical Sciences grants: UL1TR003015, UM1TR004926, UM1TR004402, UL1TR001445, UL1TR002319, UM1TR004771, UL1TR001857, U54GM115458, U54GM115428, UL1TR002553, UL1TR001872, U54GM115677, UL1TR00200, UL1TR002389, UL1TR002384, UM1TR005121.