

# **Research Centers in Minority Institutions (RCMI) PROGRAM DIRECTORY**

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(Sorted by State)

# TUSKEGEE UNIVERSITY

Tuskegee, Alabama

Grant No: G12 RR 03059

URL: <http://www.tuskegee.edu/Global/category.asp?C=35027>

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## **RCMI Goals**

- Support and strengthen biomedical research infrastructure
- Assist in supporting the implementation of the new Ph.D. program in Integrative Biosciences
- Promote mechanisms to institutionalize the Center for Biological Research (CBR) RCMI program
- Support individual developmental research projects in areas having significant health related impact on minority populations

## **Areas of Investigation**

- Bioinformatics
- Computational Epidemiology
- Cancer
- Environmental Toxicology
- Immunology

## **Center Resources, Special Instruments, and/or Services**

- Scanning and Transmission Electron Microscopes
- Image Analysis Unit
- Cell Culture and Virus Culture Laboratories
- Molecular Biology Laboratory
- Core Preparatory Instrumentation Labs
- Large/Small Animal Facilities

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## FLORIDA A&M UNIVERSITY

Tallahassee, Florida

Grant No: G12 RR 03020

URL: <http://pharmacy.famu.edu/rcmiprogram.asp>

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### RCMI Goals

- Strengthen faculty members' capability to achieve mainstream funding
- Enhance grantsmanship, digital library, and animal resources
- Strengthen the infrastructure for HIV/AIDS research
- Recruit new faculty and provide start-up support
- Provide research associates for faculty on competitive basis
- Establish research center for drug discovery
- Develop a neuroscience research program

### Areas of Investigation

- Medical chemistry, pharmacology/toxicology, environmental toxicology, and pharmaceuticals
- Synthesis of potent and safe anti-inflammatory steroids
- Anti-HIV activity of azidothymidine derivatives
- Synthesis of potential anti-cancer agents
- Computer-assisted molecular design of agents targeted to specific receptors
- Development and evaluation of novel drug delivery systems including liposomes and transdermal patches
- Neurochemical and neurobehavioral alterations associated with diabetes
- Chronopharmacology of CNS drugs
- Neurotoxicology of heavy-metal exposure and pesticides
- Neurobehavioral alterations associated with prenatal cocaine exposure
- Pharmacogenetic model for sensitivity to barbiturates

### Center Resources, Special Instruments, and/or Services

- Shared Instrumentation Laboratory
- Drug Development Laboratory
- Office of Grants Management

- Tissue Culture Facility
  - Neuroscience Laboratory
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## CLARK ATLANTA UNIVERSITY

Atlanta, Georgia

Grant No: G12 RR 03062

URL: [www.ccrtd.cau.edu](http://www.ccrtd.cau.edu)

### Principal Investigator

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### RCMI Goals

- Enhance infrastructure for basic cancer research via the establishment and operation of the Center for Cancer Research and Therapeutic Development
- Establish and maintain core research support facilities
- Recruit additional scientists in cell and molecular biology and biochemistry, and other sciences relevant to basic cancer research
- Expand research portfolio to include social and behavioral aspects of cancer treatment and/or prevention
- Enhance productivity of all scientists
- Provide additional technical support for center scientists

### Areas of Investigation

- Cellular and molecular events in the carcinogenesis pathway
- Determination of the role(s) of complex sphingolipids in the induction of CYP1A1 by 3-methylcholanthrene
- Signal transduction and cell transformation by the platelet derived growth factor beta receptor
- Model peptide/biocompatible polymer macromolecular complexes: new generation of biofunctional material
- Protection of tumor cells from T-cell-mediated cytotoxicity by heat shock
- Penyl group determination of proteins at physiological levels
- Recombinant antibodies against prostate cancer antigens

## Center Resources, Special Instruments, and/or Services

- Molecular Biology Research Laboratory
  - Electron Microscopy Research Laboratory
  - NMR Center
  - Mammalian Cell Culture Facility
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## MOREHOUSE SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

Atlanta, Georgia

Grant No: G12 RR 03034

URL: [www.msm.edu/rcmi/rcmi.html](http://www.msm.edu/rcmi/rcmi.html)

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### RCMI Goals

- Establish/enhance capabilities of new research focus areas
- Support for pilot projects in HIV/AIDS research
- Support junior faculty development
- Support for key technologies in established core facilities
- Establish genomics technology in the Functional Genomics Core
- Establish a technological capability in Proteomics

### Areas of Investigation

- The mechanisms by which chemokines affect immunity
- The role of prohibitin in regulation of ovarian follicular growth, differentiation, and death
- The nature of the transition from core particle to active reverse transcription complex
- HIV-1 gp120 protein effect(s) in glomerular endothelium

## Center Resources, Special Instruments, and/or Services

- Biomedical Technology Service Facility
- Monoclonal/Polyclonal Antibody Facility
- Flow Cytometry/Cell Sorting Facility
- 2D Gel Electrophoresis

- HPLC Facility
  - P2/P3 Facility
  - Image Analysis/Calcium Imaging Facility
  - Electron Microscopy Facility
  - Molecular Genetics Facility
  - Functional Genomics Facility
  - SELDI Proteomics
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## UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII

Honolulu, Hawaii

Grant No: G12 RR 03061

URL: [www.pbrc.hawaii.edu/rcmi](http://www.pbrc.hawaii.edu/rcmi)

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### RCMI Goals

- Enhance overall competitiveness for mainstream extramural funding by strengthening the research infrastructure for biomedicine and health
- Establish research excellence in molecular pharmacology, immunogenetic diseases, and HIV-associated disorders
- Expand capabilities of the core molecular biology facility to include DNA microarray analysis and proteomics
- Develop a biostatistics and data management core facility, and augment services provided by the computer network support facility
- Elevate excellence in patient-oriented clinical research with the intent of establishing a General Clinical Research Center

### Areas of Investigation

- Molecular pharmacology of Hawaiian ethnopharmaceuticals
- Multiple functions of a novel family of amine oxidases: role of protein interactions in fibrotic diseases
- Development of a mouse model for gene therapy of hemophilia B using a regulated cutaneous system
- Molecular pathogenesis of airway remodeling in asthma
- Renal involvement in lupus: ethnic variation and mechanisms of progression
- Immunogenetics of acute rheumatic fever

- Pathobiology of HIV-associated disorders

### **Center Resources, Special Instruments, and/or Services**

- Biological Electron Microscope Facility
  - Biostatistics and Data Management Facility
  - Computer Network Support Facility
  - Molecular Biology Core Facility
  - Retrovirology Research Laboratory
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## **MORGAN STATE UNIVERSITY**

Baltimore, Maryland

Grant No: G12 RR 017581

URL: [www.morgan.edu/academics/special/Biomed/default.asp](http://www.morgan.edu/academics/special/Biomed/default.asp)

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### **RCMI Goals**

- Further enhance the research infrastructure and research capabilities at the institution by establishing a diverse multidisciplinary research environment that integrates information across Biomedical, Behavioral, Environmental Health disciplines that are centered on the health concerns of the urban environment
- Establish state-of-the-art core laboratories in the areas of Cellular and Molecular Biology, Histochemistry/Cytology and Environmental Health/Toxicology and provide support for research capabilities, technical services to investigators addressing research questions in the areas of Stress and Cardiovascular Diseases, HIV/AIDS, Neurodevelopment/Neurodisorders and Environmental Health and toxicological problems
- Provide support for faculty pilot projects in the areas of Stress and Cardiovascular Diseases, HIV/AIDS Research, Neurodevelopment/Neurodisorders and Environmental Health/Toxicology/BioSensor Research

### **Areas of Investigation**

- Stress and Cardiovascular Diseases

- HIV/AIDS Research
- Neurodevelopment/Neurodisorders
- Environmental Health/Toxicology/BioSensor Research

### **Center Resources, Special Instruments, and/or Services**

- Cellular and Molecular Biology Core Laboratory
- Flow Cytometry Laboratory
- Histochemistry/Cytology Core Laboratory
- Environmental Health/Toxicology Core Laboratory

## **JACKSON STATE UNIVERSITY**

Jackson, Mississippi

Grant No: G12 RR 13459

URL: [ccaix.jsums.edu/~sst/rcmi.htm](http://ccaix.jsums.edu/~sst/rcmi.htm)

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### **RCMI Goals**

- Enhance environmental health research and development to strengthen our nation's leadership in this area
- Foster and enhance collaborative research efforts among JSU, other universities, federal and state agencies, and industry
- Establish, coordinate, and enhance broad-based competitive research capabilities and resources at JSU, thereby increasing the quality of research programs
- Facilitate mainstreaming JSU into competitive university-based research programs sponsored by NIH and other agencies
- Strengthen and enhance opportunities for faculty development, facility access, major equipment needs, and technology transfer
- Increase the pool of highly trained minority professionals in environmental health
- Serve as a resource center for the environmental health community and other HBCUs in Mississippi and the nation





- Synthesis of anti-HIV compounds
- Modulation of CD4 expression by T-lymphocytes
- Phylogenetic and antigenic variation in African HIV-1 isolates
- Development of drugs for HIV-1 associated *P. carinii* infections

### **Center Resources, Special Instruments, and/or Services**

- Peptide Synthesis and DNA Sequencer Facility
- FACS Facility
- NMR Facility
- Hybridoma Laboratory
- Mass Spectrometer

## **HUNTER COLLEGE, CUNY**

New York, New York

Grant No: G12 RR 03037

URL: <http://genecenter.hunter.cuny.edu>

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### **RCMI Goals**

- Establish a center for the study of gene structure and function
- Recruit and develop minority faculty and students
- Develop state-of-the-art core laboratories
- Provide start-up support and labs for new faculty
- Support pilot projects for AIDS research

### **Areas of Investigation**

- Molecular biology research on cancer and AIDS
- Role of reversible protein phosphorylation in gene induction
- Oncogene research
- Drug design and testing
- Design and synthesis of anti-HIV and antibiotic drugs for AIDS and related infections
- Neurochemical abnormalities of HIV-induced AIDS

- Neuroscience research on drug addiction and stroke
- Immunology and gene therapy vector research

### **Center Resources, Special Instruments, and/or Services**

- Analytical Chemistry/Mass Spectrometry Core Research Facility
  - Bioimaging Core Research Facility
  - Biomolecular Computation and Graphics Core Research Facility
  - Hybridoma and Cell Culture Core Research Facility
  - Microscopy and Digital Imaging Core Research Facility
  - Network Facility
  - NMR Core Research Facility
  - Protein Sequencing and DNA Synthesis Facility
  - X-Ray Crystallography Core Research Facility
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## **PONCE SCHOOL OF MEDICINE**

Ponce, Puerto Rico  
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### **Program Director**

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### **RCMI Goals**

- Development of biomedical research capability to resolve problems associated with the health disparities among ethnic minorities in general and Puerto Ricans in particular
- Consolidation of research programs on AIDS/HIV-1 infection and human genetics and genetic disorders in the Caribbean in general and in Puerto Rico in particular
- Development of neurosciences and environmental toxicology areas
- Recruit additional research faculty in the areas of both basic and clinical research

### **Areas of Investigation**

- Studies on allergen reactivity in an asthmatic population
- Coronary vasodilation and regional myocardial function
- PCR diagnosis of perinatal HIV infection
- Glucose turnover studies in children with cerebral injury
- Diagnosis and epidemiology of AIDS-related TB using PCR

- New flow cytometric method for analyzing CD8 cell function in HIV infected individuals
- Comparison of antioxidants among healthy donors, drug addicts, and HIV positive individuals
- Effect of N-acetylcysteine on function of T4 and T8 cells from AIDS donors
- In vitro effects of ciguatoxins on hepatic microsomal bio-transformation enzymes
- Ciguatoxin and myocardial function in dogs
- Metabolism and toxicity of ciguatera toxins in vitro
- Hazardous trace elements in drinking water in Puerto Rico

### **Center Resources, Special Instruments, and/or Services**

- Core Instrumentation Laboratory
- Immunology/Virology Laboratory
- Cell/Tissue Culture Facility
- Retrovirus Isolation Facility
- Optical Imaging Facility
- Animal Facility

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## **UNIVERSIDAD CENTRAL DEL CARIBE**

Bayamon, Puerto Rico  
 Grant No: G12 RR 03035  
 URL: <http://rcmiucc.org/>

### **Principal Investigator**

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### **RCMI Goals**

- Increase peer-review publications
- Increase the amount of dollars available at UCC to do competitive research
- Develop and implement a plan to institutionalize the human and physical resources using internal and external funds
- Build new research facilities
- Expand existing infrastructure
- Develop a Molecular & Cellular Biology Center
- Strengthen the Retrovirus Research Center, the Center for Molecular and Behavioral Neuroscience, and the Clinical Research Center

## Areas of Investigation

- Hepatitis C co-infection with human immunodeficiency virus: synergy of the co-infection
- Immune restoration to HAART in HIV-infected Puerto Rico children
- Modulation of synaptic formation by thyroid hormones
- DNA repair and mutagenesis
- Oxidative DNA damage and oxysterol-induced Apoptosis
- Cembranoid-induced calcium signaling

## Center Resources, Special Instruments, and/or Services

- Behavioral Testing Facility
- Electron Microscopy Facility
- HIV Laboratory and HIV Data Core
- Optical Imaging Facility
- Protein & Nucleic Acid Core Facility
- Neuroscience Immunocytochemistry Laboratory

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## UNIVERSITY OF PUERTO RICO, MEDICAL SCIENCES CAMPUS

San Juan, Puerto Rico

Grant No: G12 RR 03051

URL: <http://rcmi.rcm.upr.edu/>

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## RCMI Goals

- Develop research infrastructure and support services to facilitate the conduct of research related to health disparities
- Target specific areas of research-related health disparities and provide a focal point for these research activities on campus
- Promote the professional development of our research faculty and technical personnel working on this area

## Areas of Investigation

- Health disparities
- Molecular neurosciences
- Women's health
- AIDS and emerging infectious diseases
- Molecular genetics of blood disorders
- Information architecture
- Molecular pharmacology

## Center Resources, Special Instruments, and/or Services

- Core Instrumentation Laboratories
- Central Electron Microscopy Unit
- Flow Cytometry Laboratory
- Molecular Genetics Core Facility
- Center for Architecture Information in Research
- Image Analysis Resource Center
- RCMI Clinical Research Center
- Center for Maternal-Infant Studies
- Behavioral Sciences Research Institute
- Center of Excellence in Women's Health
- Caribbean Primate Research Center
- High-Performance Computing Facility

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## MEHARRY MEDICAL COLLEGE

Nashville, Tennessee  
Grant No: G12 RR 03032  
URL:

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### RCMI Goals

- To recruit competitive, new, junior and senior faculty who conduct research which can impact on cardiovascular disease and who will contribute to interdisciplinary research in this focused area

- To continue start-up support for recently recruited RCMI faculty to a full three years
- To enhance the competitiveness of RCMI and other investigators by providing infrastructural support for essential core facilities and postdoctoral fellows
- To support pilot projects which involve research on or related to cardiovascular disease

### **Areas of Investigation**

- Cardiovascular Disease
- Cell Signaling
- Environmental Health and Toxicology
- Oral Biology
- AIDS
- Neuroscience
- Human Genetics

### **Center Resources, Special Instruments, and/or Services**

- Molecular Biology Core Facility
- Flow Cytometry Core Facility
- Computational Biology Core Facility
- BL-3 Core Facility
- Scientific Imaging Center
- Molecular Neurobiology Core Facility
- Oral Biology Core
- Environmental Health and Toxicology Core

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## **TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY**

Houston, Texas

Grant No: G12 RR 03045

URL: [www.tsu.edu/academics/pharmacy/rcmi/index.asp](http://www.tsu.edu/academics/pharmacy/rcmi/index.asp)

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## **RCMI Goals**

- Improve biomedical and behavioral research capabilities in cardiovascular diseases, diabetes, HIV/AIDS, and environmental toxicology
- Enhance faculty competitiveness by extending research infrastructure and participation options to all biomedical and behavioral research units at Texas Southern University
- Establish a core Biomarker and Environmental Toxicology Laboratory
- Expand molecular biopharmacology and tissue culture services to University investigators
- Establish a Biomedical Research Faculty Recruitment Core
- Strengthen research infrastructure supporting M.S. and Ph.D. degree programs in environmental toxicology and pharmaceutical sciences

## **Areas of Investigation**

- Amine oxidases and vascular injury in diabetes
- Pathogenesis of lead-induced hypertension
- Molecular regulation and expression of signals affecting peripheral vascular resistance in salt-dependent hypertension
- Absorption and disposition kinetics of antiviral nucleosides
- Effects of a protease inhibitor and dipyridamole on disposition kinetics of antiviral drugs
- Information-based assessment and effect of instructional intervention on risk reduction of HIV transmission among minority populations

## **Center Resources, Special Instruments, and/or Services**

- Office of Research Resources
- Tissue Culture Facility
- Analytical Toxicology Core Laboratory
- Molecular Biopharmacology Laboratory
- Small Animal Facility



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## UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS, EL PASO

El Paso, Texas

Grant No: G12 RR 08124

URL: <http://research.utep.edu/bbrc>

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### RCMI Goals

- Expand the Border Biomedical Research Center for a sustained biomedical research effort
- Recruit new faculty including senior level biomedical sciences faculty to reach a critical mass in the areas of infectious diseases, toxicology, and neurological and metabolic disorders
- Provide graduate degree opportunities in biomedical sciences for underrepresented, primarily Hispanic students
- Enhance the research infrastructure for faculty support to achieve sustained competitive excellence in border biomedical sciences research and address targeted biomedical issues critical to the Texas-Mexico border

### Areas of Investigation

- Infectious diseases
- Basic molecular research of infectious agents
- Host-Ⓣ parasite interactions
- Metabolic and neurological disorders
- Physiological research on metabolic disorders
- Etiology of disease processes
- Toxicology
- Environmental toxins
- Etiology of cancer

### Center Resources, Special Instruments, and/or Services

- Biochemistry/Molecular Biology Core Facility
- Cell Culture Facility

- Analytical Cytology Facility
- Statistical Consulting Laboratory

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## UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT SAN ANTONIO

San Antonio, Texas  
Grant No: G12 RR 13646  
URL:

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### **RCMI Goals**

- Enhance research capacity at the University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA) and in South Texas by establishing the Cajal Neuroscience Research Center (CNRC)
- Establish collaborations with research institutions in South Texas
- Develop excellence in computational and molecular neuroscience
- Develop a core facility that will support neurocomputation and enhance UTSA's capability for electron microscopy
- Support developmental projects in neurobiology
- Organize a year-long seminar in neuroscience

### **Areas of Investigation**

- Aging and Genes in Learning and LTP
- Estrogen Replacement Therapy and Neuron Structure
- Biophysical mechanisms of Hebbian Mossy Fiber LTP
- Specification of Serotonin Cell identity in *Drosophila*
- ApoE-4 and A Beta Influence on Development of AD
- Spatiotemporal Structure of Visually Evoked Cortical Waves

### **Center Resources, Special Instruments, and/or Services**

- Neurocomputational and Neurovisualization Facility
- Transmission Electron Microscopy Facility

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## HOWARD UNIVERSITY

Washington, D.C.

Grant No: G12 RR 03048

URL: <http://www.howard.edu/medicine/rcmi/default.htm>

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### RCMI Goals

- Expand biomedical infrastructure by developing specific core research units
- Enhance administrative research capability
- Support developmental human genome research

### Areas of Investigation

- Molecular Computations and Bioinformatics, Pharmacokinetics
- In Vivo NMR Spectroscopy for Pharmacokinetics Protein Interactions and function of I Q Motif-containing proteins

### Center Resources, Special Instruments, and/or Services

- Molecular Computations and Bioinformatics Core
- Biostatistical Research Support Unit
- Administrative Research Support Office
- Biomedical NMR Core Laboratory