**A MONTH IN THE RESEARCH NEXUS**

Course title: A month in the Research Nexus

Duration: One month offered in the fall semester

Course Co-directors: Dr. Carol Wagner, Director, SCTR Research Nexus

Dr. Perry Halushka

Course Number MED832

The Month in the Research Nexus is a requirement of the program and is fulfilled during the senior year. The rotation is offered during the fall semester. This gives you an advantage when interviewing for internships and residencies.

The students present their final proposal to Dr. Carol Wagner, Dr. Halushka and other members of the Research Nexus staff. In addition, the students also present their proposal to their fellow MSTP students at a Monday Night Seminar.

**Rotation Outcome/Expectations for MSTP Students:**

LEARNING GOALS & OBJECTIVES: At the completion of this clinical rotation students should be able to do the following:  
1. Develop a clinical investigation protocol based on the student’s dissertation and/or research interest.  
2. Apply appropriate statistical approaches in developing a clinical protocol.

3. Demonstrate understanding of the basics of the informed consent process, IRB review, good clinical practice, strategies for patient recruitment/retention, standard operating procedures, study audits, adverse events/reporting, clinical trial budgets, and research misconduct.

4. Employ effective strategies for managing research teams.  
5. Demonstrate understanding of the importance of preliminary data, rationale for methodology, and experimental design in the context of the presented research study.

* Assignments will be given based on the weekly outcome and the steps needed for completion
* For MSTP students, the clinical study to be developed is based on their dissertation research. They will also have the opportunity to work with the appropriate clinical investigator.
* The study will require working with the support services of the SCTR Research Nexus.

**Final Project**:

* Develop and write a clinical investigation protocol, including the informed consent using the PHS 398 instructions for the R21 as an outline (table of contents and length)
* Emphasize R21, 4 questions (research plan four R’s)
* Presentation before SCTR Research Nexus Research Education Committee members during the final week of the rotation
* Presentation to MSTP students at Monday Night seminars

**A. Assignments (A)**

Assignment: meet as a group with a representative from the library regarding literature search engines and tools to help you as the investigator

**B. Pieces of Rotation** – See for a typical month