University of Maryland Center of Excellence in Regulatory Science and Innovation (M-CERSI)

“America’s Got Regulatory Science Talent” Competition

Competition Announcement

Students at the Baltimore and College Park campuses of the University of Maryland are invited to participate in a competition! The competition aims to promote student interest in regulatory science – the science of developing new tools, standards and approaches to assess the safety, efficacy, quality and performance of FDA-regulated products.

The competition involves each team developing and presenting a proposed solution to a current opportunity in regulatory science. There are numerous needs in regulatory science. Students should consult the [FDA Center/Office Regulatory Science Research Priority Areas for the CERSI Program](https://). The competition will be held via Webex on Friday, Jan. 15, 2021 from 9-11 a.m. A team can include either an individual or any number of students, although each team member has to contribute to the proposed solution or the presentation. The presentation must be 5 minutes in duration or less. It may be as simple as a verbal description or may utilize AV materials. Creativity is encouraged. Proposed solutions should also aim to have high regulatory impact. Each presentation will be followed by 2 minutes of Q&A.

If you are interested in participating in the upcoming competition, please email a completed Information Sheet (available below) to RegSciTalent@rx.umd.edu by Jan. 3, 2021.

Questions? Email: RegSciTalent@rx.umd.edu

Example Proposed Solutions

Developing drugs, devices, and biologics is fraught with challenges. Likewise, there is a continuing need for new tools, standards and approaches to assess the safety, efficacy, quality and performance of FDA-regulated products. Examples of proposed solutions include: toxicological assays (in vivo and in vitro) to compare toxicity across different types of tobacco products within the same class, including electronic nicotine delivery systems (ENDS); reducing healthcare-associated infection; methods to improve quality and safety of FDA-regulated products (e.g., methodologies for complex generic drugs, biosimilars, biological products, and medical devices; discovery and validation of minimally invasive biomarkers); and methods and tools to improve and streamline clinical and post-market evaluation of FDA-regulated...
products (e.g., approaches to incorporating patient input into regulatory decision-making; approaches to leveraging large data to inform regulatory decision-making, including use of “real world” data sources and mobile technologies; product safety and efficacy in special populations). Some previous winning ideas involved improving how to report an adverse medication event to FDA, counterfeit drug detection, and a mobile application to communicate drug/device risks.

Teams that wish to have a mentor from FDA must request a mentor by emailing RegSciTalent@rx.umd.edu by Nov. 15, 2020. If possible, please indicate your preferred topic for the talent event (e.g., drug safety, device design) and FDA will try to identify an FDA scientist who is willing to mentor; if a mentor is found, you will be contacted via email.

Criteria

Eligibility: All full-time and part-time students (e.g., undergraduate, professional, graduate) at the Baltimore or College Park campus of the University of Maryland are eligible.

Presentation Evaluation: Each presentation will be evaluated by a panel of judges from Maryland and FDA in terms of proposed solution and presentation quality. Elements of the proposed solution include novelty and potential significance. Short-term feasibility is a plus, but not a requirement. Elements of presentation quality include verbal communication, visual communication, impact of any AV materials or demonstrations, and Q&A responses.

Dates and Deadlines

By Jan. 3, 2021, please email RegSciTalent@rx.umd.edu with a completed Information Sheet for M-CERSI “America’s Got Regulatory Science Talent” Competition. The form is available at www.cersi.umd.edu. The competition will be held on Friday, Jan. 15, 2021 via Webex from 9-11 a.m.

About M-CERSI

M-CERSI is an FDA-sponsored center at the Baltimore and College Park campuses of the University of Maryland (www.cersi.umd.edu). The mission of the Center is to foster the development of regulatory science – the science of developing new tools, standards and approaches to assess the safety, efficacy, quality and performance of FDA-regulated products.
Information Sheet

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Team Name:

Less-than-12-word description of proposed solution:

Name of team captain:

Email of team captain:

Faculty or FDA advisor (optional):

Anticipate AV needs (e.g., microphones, sound system, PPT):

Names of team members (and their college/school/program affiliation):

Questions? Email: RegSciTalent@rx.umd.edu

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