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**New ATRN Institutional Partner:
 East Tennessee State University**



**EAST TENNESSEE STATE
 UNIVERSITY**

East Tennessee State University is our newest institutional member in the Appalachian Translational Research Network! “The University of Choice” and “Home of the Buccaneers!”

The mission of East Tennessee State University is to educate students to become responsible, enlightened, and productive citizens, conduct scholarship that improves the human condition, serve business, education, government, health care systems, and community, and enhance the cultural environment of the region.

ETSU embraces its regional setting and proudly reflects its traditional roots and Appalachian heritage. The university is recognized for its unique focus on the health sciences. ETSU’s Division of Health Sciences, composed of the colleges of Medicine, Nursing, and Public and Allied Health, seeks to

support the health and wellness of the people of Southern Appalachia, with special emphasis on meeting the needs

of rural populations while supporting high quality health-related research.



Beth Bailey, RN, reached out to the

ATR N with her dedication in Appalachia and research and felt they would be an excellent match with our institutional partners. We look forward to working on expanding the research environment in our four state region and work together on the health disparities of our regional.

Welcome aboard ETSU!

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Where Oh Where Can I Find Published Research?

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/>

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmedhealth/>

Appalachian Translational Research Network

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ave you ever heard about a research project and wanted to know more? Have you ever thought about a research topic and wanted to see if there were others who worked with the same topic? There is a way to search for this information. PubMed is hosted by the US National Library, an affiliate of the National Institute of Health, and they host the PubMed Webpage that houses published articles written by researchers.

Dr. Lauren Smith, a researcher from The Ohio State University, has published several of her projects with PubMed.

The *Sodabriety*

Project is one of them. When you enter into the Website you will see options and you can choose to enter PubMed Single Citation Matcher, enter your author's name or topic. When you do, the results will pop up and you can read about the project. You may choose the article and a brief description will appear.

This allows Dr. Smith an opportunity to share her projects with others.

She has found PubMed very beneficial, it not only allows her an opportunity to disseminate her findings but also allows her to find other researchers who are interested in similar topics.

PubMed and *PubMed Health* are the places to look online when you want to know: **What Works?** Backed by the National Library of Medicine and the National Institutes of Health, these sources are the first place to

check when you are looking for the "evidence" to back "evidenced-based" practice. As a free, online database, PubMed has more than 24 million citations from medical, life science, and other health-related journals and books. Citations may include not only articles but web links and other sources. PubMed Health, another free, online

database, is a great source to find the most current and up-to date clinical guides, summaries, and research "behind the Headlines".



WVCTSI hosts Connector event to share services and encourage collaboration

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The West Virginia Clinical and Translational Science Institute (WVCTSI) hosted members of the West Virginia University research community at its second Connector, an informational reception, to learn more about available services and resources, and network with other researchers across campus and in the community.

WVCTSI leaders and representatives were on-hand at the Connector to talk with guests and answer questions

about the variety of services that the Institute offers its members, including pilot funding opportunities, educational services, and pre and post award support. WVU faculty, scientists, clinical and research fellows, residents, students, trainees, and community members were invited to attend, and over 100 people participated in the March 31 event. The Institute looks forward to hosting similar activities at each of its West Virginia partner sites.

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West Virginia University Jay Mason named WVCTSI liaison with ATRN

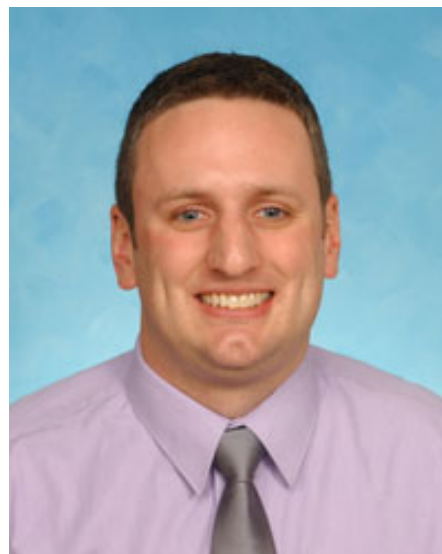
Jay Mason, program coordinator with the West Virginia Clinical and Translational Science Institute, has been tapped to serve as the liaison with the Appalachian Translational Research Network.

Mason currently serves as the program coordinator for the Community Engagement and Outreach Core (CEO) in the West Virginia Clinical and Translational Science Institute (WVCTSI). He works closely with the director and the program chair to coordinate all day-to-day activities within the CEO core. He also helps to develop the West Virginia Practice-Based Research Network as part of their planning committee and by traveling to communities around the state to promote practice-based practice research. Mason is also part of the CEO evaluation team, which handles all evaluation and tracking within the CEO core.

Mason graduated from West Virginia University in 2007 with a Bachelor's degree in communication studies and

has worked for the School of Public Health at WVU before working for the WVCTSI.

Mason replaces Chad Higgins, PhD, who previously served as liaison and recently left WVCTSI for a position with Iowa State University Extension and Outreach.



**Jay Mason, program coordinator
 West Virginia Clinical and Translational
 Science Institute**

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Lockman tapped to lead investigator development initiatives with West Virginia Clinical and Translational Science Institute



Scientist and educator named organization's research pathfinder

MORGANTOWN, W.Va. – Julie Lockman, Ph.D., has been named research pathfinder with the West Virginia Clinical and Translational Science Institute (WVCTSI).

As research pathfinder, Lockman will oversee investigator development, service integration, and product development tracking for WVCTSI-funded investigators. The pathfinder also serves as the point person to support investigators as they navigate the research process. She will provide consultations to advise investigators on available WVCTSI services and resources, identify and assist in development of collaborative research teams, and support the WVCTSI research mentoring initiatives.

Lockman has served as the educational director in the WVCTSI Clinical Research Education, Mentoring and Career Development core. She joined the organization in January 2014 and has developed educational programs and initiatives for faculty, residents and students pursuing additional training in clinical and translational research.

Prior to her work with WVCTSI, Dr. Lockman was an assistant professor of biology at West Texas A&M University in Canyon, Texas. She earned her Ph.D. in pharmaceutical sciences from Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center and followed with postdoctoral work in neuropharmacology and molecular biology at Texas Tech University School of Pharmacy.

“Dr. Lockman is absolutely the right person to lead WVCTSI’s investigator support efforts,” said Sally L. Hodder, M.D., director of the West Virginia Clinical and Translational Science Institute. “We place strong emphasis on investigator support, and her experience in program development, biomedical research and education demonstrates her ability to match resources to needs. We are quite pleased that Dr. Lockman will be at the forefront of this service.”

(continue next page)

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Lockman tapped to lead investigator development initiatives with West Virginia Clinical and Translational Science Institute (cont.)

“The WVCTSI staff and leadership are passionate about our role in supporting the growth of clinical and translational sciences across the state with the ultimate goal of improving health outcomes,” Dr. Lockman shared. “I am grateful to be a part of such an important initiative working alongside such an experienced and committed team.”

In addition to her duties with WVCTSI, Dr. Lockman is an adjunct faculty member in the West Virginia University School of Medicine and School of Pharmacy. She serves on numerous committees and is a participant in the Mountaineer Leadership Academy’s Leadership Development Institute and the Women’s Leadership Initiative at WVU.

She assumes the research pathfinder position following the departure of Chad Higgins, PhD, who recently moved on to Iowa State University to serve as the senior director of Extension and Outreach. Dr. Lockman will continue to work with education programs and activities until a program coordinator is hired.

WVCTSI Background

In August 2012, the WVCTSI was awarded a \$19.6 million IDEa Clinical and Translational grant from the National Institute of General Medical Sciences titled “West Virginia IDEa CTR” [Institutional Development Award for Clinical and Translational Research, 1U54RR033567-02; Hodder (Principal Investigator)] to support WVCTSI’s mission of building clinical and translational research I infrastructure and capacity to impact health disparities in West Virginia.

This grant was matched by a \$33.5 million commitment from several West Virginia entities to create a total funding of \$53.1 million to recruit 24 clinician scientists and provide infrastructure core support in biostatistics, bioinformatics, community engagement and outreach, clinical research education and mentoring, ethical and regulatory knowledge support, and pilot grants to grow clinical and translational research in the state.



2015 Annual Health Summit Update

Hosted by West Virginia University In Charleston, West Virginia

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his year West Virginia University will be hosting the annual ATRN Health Summit. This year's theme is "The Health of Our Future" and will be at the Marriott, Charleston, West Virginia.

The ATRN Health Summit begins on Thursday, October 15, 2015 at 11 am. The poster presentation and ATRN Reception is scheduled for that evening. Friday, October 16, 2015 will be the second day of the event with

Lunch and Conclusion ending the summit.

Registration will be live in May 2015 and a call for abstracts will also be issued this summer for poster and oral presentations. Updates and links can be found at: <http://www.wvctsi.org/pages/Events/2015/October/WVCTSI-Annual-Meeting-and-ATRN-Health-Summit>.

ATRN Summit participants are also invited to participate in WVCTSI Annual Meeting activities which begin Wednesday, October 14.

SAVE THE DATE

**October 15-16,
2015**

**Annual ATRN
Health Summit in
Charleston WV**





The Ohio State University : Community Engagement Advisory Board (CEAB) of Southeastern Ohio Host Hepatitis C Speakers



*David K. Byers, MD, Internal Medicine and
Infectious Disease Board Certified*

Byers to help with the health issues of the many Hepatitis C patients of the region. Prior to the arrival of Dr. Byers, patients were referred out of the region. For many of the patients, this was a deterrent to seeking the health care they needed.

Tia Moretti and Jenessa Teague, Columbus Public Health, both spoke about funding opportunities for screening, outreach and focus group work. Ms. Teague shared how CPH secures funding for Hepatitis C work and offered to check to see if there is funding available for southern Ohio.

The next Board meeting is scheduled for May 2015 and two more presenters have been invited to give presentations. Dr. Jonathan Honegger from Nationwide Children's Hospital will talk about his current project that he has partnered with Compass Community Health Care in Portsmouth, Ohio. Researcher Jennifer Syvertsen is also on the agenda to talk about her projects and interest in southern Ohio.

Several Board members have stepped up to help lead this project: Wally Burden, Pike County Health Department, Susan Smith, Scioto County Health Department and Kevin Aston, Jackson County Health Department.

We will continue to update the efforts of this project as we move forward.

Vision Statement:

*To have a positive
impact on the health of
people, organizations
and communities
around us, by*

The ATRN/Community Engagement of South East Ohio Community Advisory Board's January 2015 meeting was hosted by the Jackson County Health Department in Jackson Ohio. Several speakers were invited to help educate the members about Hepatitis C. With the high number of Hepatitis C cases in southeastern Ohio, the members were interested in learning more about Hepatitis C and what to expect/prepare for as the Hepatitis C population ages.

Dr. David Byers gave a presentation regarding Hepatitis C. In his medical practice he treats Hepatitis C patients from the southern Ohio region. The local hospital, Southern Ohio Medical Center, recruited Dr.



University of Kentucky Training Spotlight: Project CARAT

When it comes to commitment to serving the unique needs of rural Kentuckians, no effort exemplifies the spirit of collaboration, shared responsibility, and dedication more than Project CARAT.

A joint effort among the University of Kentucky Center of Excellence in Rural Health, the UK Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) program, the Kentucky Department of Vocational Rehabilitation, The Kentucky Assistive Technology Service Network (KATS), The Carl D. Perkins Vocational Training Center, The Kentucky Appalachian Rural Rehabilitation Network (KARRN), West Kentucky Community and Technical College, Spaulding University, and Appalachian Regional Healthcare, Project CARAT is a true working partnership that exemplifies a shared commitment to addressing the complex needs of rural Kentuckians.

CARAT—Coordinating and Assisting the Reuse of Assistive Technology—is funded through the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). The program has grown by leaps and bounds since its inception just three years ago.

According to Dr. Patrick Kitzman, UK Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Sciences professor, “The goal of CARAT is to improve the quality of life of individuals with disabilities through the provision and redistribution of assistive technology (AT) and durable medical equipment (DME). Through the acquisition of AT/DME, participants improve their health through increased mobility and decreased isolation. They are better able to participate in the life of their community, and to achieve ‘health equity’, defined by the Healthy People 2020 Initiative as ‘the attainment of the highest level of health for all people.’”

CARAT is consistent with the Healthy People Initiative in that individuals are able to access equipment necessary for mobility and

healthy living at no cost, thanks to grant funding and the hard work of student leaders engaged in service-learning. With the hard work of students from the UK DPT program, the Carl D. Perkins Vocational Training Center, WKCTC’s physical therapy assistant program, and Spaulding’s occupational therapy program, used equipment is refurbished, cleaned, stored, and then distributed to those in need by way of a simple request form on the CARAT website. This student-led initiative provides a much needed service to the rural residents of the Commonwealth, and also valuable service-learning experience for students who will spend their careers working with the population of residents who utilize the equipment available through CARAT.

It’s working. According to Keisha Hudson, stroke navigator based at the Center of Excellence in Rural Health, “CARAT has helped people in Eastern Kentucky in a big way. Several participants in our Stroke Navigator study have accessed equipment through CARAT, and these individuals could not have obtained the equipment otherwise. They are either uninsured or underinsured, and the out-of-pocket cost would have kept them from being able to get the equipment they need. And this equipment has not only improved lives; it has literally saved lives by preventing accidents.”

Two CARAT refurbishing sites are located in Southeast Kentucky—at the Center of Excellence in Rural Health in Hazard, and the Carl D. Perkins Vocational Training Center in Thelma. Additionally, a third refurbishing site is located in Paducah through a collaboration with Lourdes Hospital. According to Sheila Levy, CARAT Outreach Coordinator for the Kentucky Office of Vocational Rehabilitation, a fourth site is set to open on the Spaulding University campus in Louisville in May.

The goal of CARAT is to improve the quality of life of individuals.



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University of Cincinnati

Asthma Control Tips

National guidelines for the management of asthma in children recommend that six actions be taken to address asthma. The first five: use of inhaled corticosteroids, providing an asthma action plan, assessment of asthma severity, assessment of asthma control all done through periodic asthma visits are straightforward to accomplish in a clinic setting. The sixth action “Control of Environmental Exposures” is often challenging for practicing clinicians since it requires both an assessment of the child's environment and to make recommendations to improve the child's environment. Luckily, evidence-based recommendations have been assembled to help health care providers put these recommendations into action. These are available from the National Environmental Education Foundation <http://www.neefusa.org/health/asthma/index.htm> and a video recording of a lecture given at Cincinnati Children's Hospital on this topic is available at:

<http://cchmcstream.cchmc.org/MediasiteEX/Play/d66753ac939f42919ec64e8f1d0de3cf1d>

The Pediatric Environmental Health Specialty Unit (PEHSU) at Cincinnati

Children's Hospital can assist health care providers and health departments manage suspected and actual environmental exposures in children. Our website is the starting point to contact us: <http://www.cincinnatichildrens.org/service/environmental-health/default/>

Asthma control tip:

For children for whom asthma symptoms are worse when sleeping in their beds, control of dust mites may be an effective way to address this common asthma trigger. This can be accomplished through the use of dust mite covers on mattresses and pillows, using a HEPA vacuum cleaner to clean the home, washing bed linens and stuffed toys in hot water (130°F) weekly, and to avoid humidifiers. More costly interventions (removing draperies, carpets, etc.) should be done only if there is a confirmed allergy.



ATRN/Community Engagement of Southeastern Ohio

Community Engagement Advisory Board Member

Kevin Aston, Health Commissioner/Jackson County Health Department

"I'm passionate about public health because it allows me to touch so many lives."

Kevin Aston

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hen Kevin was in his mid-twenties, he realized there is a person in each county who is uniquely responsible for coordinating health care services and being a steward of the health and well-being of the entire population, the Health Commissioner. At that point he started working toward the goal of becoming a Health Commissioner. He earned his Bachelor's Degree with Honors in Biology from The University of Toledo and a Master's Degree in Public Health with an emphasis on Administration from the Northwest Ohio Consortium of Public Health. He is also a Registered Sanitarian in the State of Ohio and with the National Environmental Health Association.

During his educational journey he completed an undergraduate research project with the University of Toledo Honors Program. This has led Kevin to being receptive to research and research collaborations. So when The Ohio State University Community Engagement of Southeastern Ohio and the Appalachian Translational Research Network approached Kevin and the Jackson County Health Department he eagerly joined as a Community Partner. He furthered his collaboration with his partnership by becoming a member of the Community Advisory Board and they host the quarterly advisory board meeting at their facility in Jackson, Ohio.

Before coming to the Jackson County Health Department, Kevin has obtained a vast amount of experience from his various

positions with the health departments in Clark County Combined Health District as an Epidemiologist, the Champaign Health District as an Epidemiologist, Greater Dayton area's regional Epidemiologist and the Pike County General Health District in the Environmental Health Services.

Kevin has an experience that stands out in his memory of when he was seven years old and fell while playing and injured his neck. His carotid artery was nicked and he lost a lot of blood. He nearly died that day, but his life was saved by emergency medical technicians, nurses and doctors. He learned what a difference a healthcare professional can make as a result of that experience. When reflecting upon this experience he made a decision that as a public health department he could make a difference in the lives of others and positively impact an entire community of people.

Kevin credits his parents as his role models who have had the greatest influence on becoming the person he is today. They taught him the values he cherishes and the skills he needed to be successful. He says he got his clear thinking and analytical nature from his father who is a Certified Public Accountant. He received his empathy and passion for serving others from his mother who is a primary school teacher.

We are fortunate that Kevin has chosen to share his skills, knowledge and time with us to help expand the research environment in Southeastern Ohio.



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

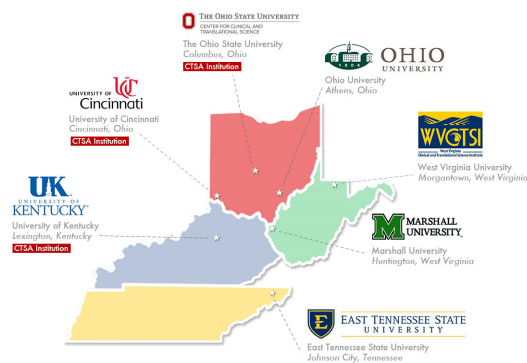


THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY
CENTER FOR CLINICAL AND TRANSLATIONAL SCIENCE

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