Establishment of the UF Research Coordinator’s Consortium

The University of Florida is a national and international leader in clinical, non-clinical, and translational research. As such, its Research Coordinators provide the support structure necessary for the success of high-quality research endeavors. It is the vision of this committee to establish a formal organization, known as the Research Coordinators Consortium (RCC), to develop, enhance, support, and further the education and interests of those with research coordinator as part of their job description.

Mission
The mission of the RCC is to provide a consolidated environment of educational resources and opportunities, networking activities and support to Research Coordinators working within the University of Florida.

Objectives
1. The primary objective of the Consortium is to create a support structure for Research Coordinators at the University of Florida, with the following specific aims:
   a. To provide ongoing educational opportunities specific to the research processes, methodologies, and integrity.
   b. To network with one another for the purposes of collaboration, cross-departmental support and the building of collegiality;
   c. To establish, maintain, and continually develop a common understanding of the role of the Research Coordinator within the University and the GCP requirements, expectations and methods of conducting business.

2. A secondary objective of the Consortium is to establish leadership within the University as well as the state university system, to underscore and complement the standards of excellence realized daily within the medical research atmosphere for which the University of Florida has become known.

Membership
Membership in the RCC is available to anyone whose job description details Research Coordination or anyone desiring the mentorship to become a research coordinator.

Organization
This organization founded by and for Research Coordinators from which a Steering Committee is drawn. Faculty advisement, along with senior coordinator advisors, shall help guide the development and functioning of the organization, as an operational body within the university.

Governance
The Consortium shall be governed independently and internally, by its members and elected leaders. After the initial start-up period of one year, leadership roles shall be open for annual or semi-annual election, as decided by the organization’s membership.

Oversight
The RCC shall benefit from the oversight of a faculty mentors and two Senior Coordinators, both of whom will be actively involved in health services research. Any faculty member conducting research at the University is eligible to serve in this position; after the initial start-up period of one year these positions shall be filled by a vote of the organization’s membership.
Faculty Advisement - Lauren Solberg, JD, MTS, Assistant Professor, Program in Bioethics, Law & Medical Professionalism, Department of Community Health & Family Medicine, Departments of Aging & Geriatric Research and Psychiatry, University of Florida College of Medicine, Health Science Center, G1-021 Phone: 352-273-5142; email: lbsolberg@ufl.edu

Senior Coordinator Advisement - H. Robert Kolb RN BS CCRC; Research Participant Advocate / Research Project
NaviGator Regulatory Knowledge & Research Support; University of Florida; 2004 Mowry Road PO Box 100219Gainesville, FL 32610-0219; Phone: 352-273-8882; E-mail: kolbhr@ufl.edu

Senior Coordinator Advisement - Barbara Frentzen, ARNP, MSN; Florida Center for Brain Tumor Research; Evelyn F. and William L. McKnight Brain Institute; University of Florida; Box 100265 Gainesville, FL 32610-0265 Phone: 352.294.0517 Barbara.Frentzen@neurosurgery.ufl.edu

With Advisor guidance and oversight, the Steering committee will structure the Consortium’s initial membership, activities, schedule, and budget as necessary.

Steering Committee Members

Cheri Knecht, MPH, CCRP
Program Assistant/Research Coordinator
Bioethics, Law and Medical Professionalism & Academy of Research Excellence Program

Allison Trainor, MPH, CPH
Research Coordinator
Department of Epidemiology

Marcia Hodik, RN, BSHS, CCRC
Clinical Research Coordinator
Department of Neurosurgery

Lee Ann Lawson, MS ARNP, CCRC
Coordinator Clinical & Research Programs
Children’s Health Research Institute

Kimberly Foli, B.S
Research Coordinator III
Quality Assurance / Quality Improvement Program
UF Institutional Review Board

Judith Wishin, BSN, CCRC
Sr. Clinical Research Coordinator
Department of Anesthesiology