

**CTSA Informatics Steering Committee Meeting – Meeting Summary**  
**June 21, 2007**  
**Democracy One, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor, Rm 987**  
**8:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.**

**Attendees:** Bill Hersh - OHSU, (Informatics Steering Committee Chair); Elaine Collier - NCRR, (NIH CTSA Informatics Coordinator); Barbara Alving – NCRR; Anthony Hayward – NCRR; Elaine Ayres-NIH Clinical Center; Carol Bean -NHLBI; Stefano Bertuzzi-OD/OSP; Ken Buetow-NCI; Zohara Cohen-NIBIB; Greg Farber- NCRR; Iris Obrams – NCRR; Rosemarie Filart-NCRR; Dorothy West – NCRR; Michael Huerta-NIMH; Laura Lee Johnson-NCCAM; Walter Koroshetz - NINDS; James Luo -NIBIB; Peter Lyster - NIGMS; Hon Pak -TATRC; Michael Sayre-NCRR; Marc Walton-FDA; Kent Anderson - UC Davis; Robert Annechiarico-Duke; Michael Becich - University of Pittsburgh; Elmer Bernstam - UT, Houston; Christopher Chute - Mayo Clinic; Gregory Cooper - University of Pittsburgh; Douglas Fridsma - University of Pittsburgh; Stephen Johnson - Columbia; Michael Kamerick - UCSF; Michael Krauthammer - Yale; Pierre La Chance - OHSU; Michael Lin - Mayo Clinic; Charles Lu – Yale; Shannon McWeeney - OHSU; Perry Miller - Yale; Meredith Nahm - Duke; Ricardo Pietrobon - Duke; Robert Schuff - OHSU; John Sinard -Yale; William Weems - University of Texas Houston; Stephen Woody- Duke;

**Adobe Connect Attendees:** Edward Barbour – Rockefeller; Jamie Cuticchia - Duke, Barry Coller – Rockefeller; Rob Califf – Duke; L. Berglund, UC Davis; Robert Curley, U Penn; Robert Rizza – Mayo; David Krusch – Rochester; J. Showstack, UCSF; B. Barrick – NIAID; Yuan Liu – NINDS; Jon McKeeby – NCC; Teresa Zayas Caban – AHRQ; Daverna Gabriel; Pete White; Maureen Beanan - NCRR; James Perkins - RTRN; Omar Daoud

### **Welcome and Introductions**

Dr. Barbara Alving, Director, NCRR, opened the meeting by welcoming informatics representatives from each of the CTSA institutions as well as members of the NIH CTSA Informatics Committee. Dr. Anthony Hayward, Director, Division of Clinical Research Resources, NCRR, provided a brief update on CTSA program activities.

All powerpoint presentations are posted on [ctsaweb.org](http://ctsaweb.org)

### **CTSA Informatics Steering Committee - Consortium Deliverables**

Leaders from each of the five working groups below delivered a brief presentation outlining their proposed projects and deliverables.

- 1. Inventory of Existing Informatics Projects Working Group** – Dr. Shannon McWeeney presented information on the types of informatics resources that were submitted for the inventory. The group will continue to focus on defining the granularity and scope of the inventory and will work to define the inventory audience (Informaticists) and develop a controlled vocabulary and ontology classification system.
- 2. Integrative Data Repository Working Group** – Dr. Michael Kammerick provided an overview of the proposed projects for the integrative data repository. These include developing use cases for sharing data and tools, developing a framework for sharing meta-data and identifying software for potential adoption by the CTSA consortium.

- 3. Standards and Interoperability Working Group** – Dr. Christopher Chute delivered a presentation highlighting the group's effort to develop use cases for standards, to raise awareness of translational research on the agenda of various standard setting groups (i.e. AHIC, HITSP) and to work with the Inventory working group to align existing standards resources. The group also plans to host a symposium on clinical research standards to be held in Fall 2007.
- 4. Research Knowledge and Dissemination Working Group** – Dr. Steve Johnson presented the group's proposal to develop an online service (portal) for investigators which would include a directory of Investigator expertise, best practices, resources and tools. The group will be conducting a needs assessment and workflow analysis survey to gather the data to match investigator needs to the appropriate online resources.
- 5. Research Education Working Group** – Dr. Bill Hersh provided an overview of the group's efforts to develop an inventory of informatics focused curricula and a repository for educational courses. The group plans to survey educational leaders from each CTSA institution as well as leaders from the GCRC's and K30 programs to gather this data. The working group plans on presenting the results of this survey to the Informatics Steering Committee in the fall.

## **General Discussion**

CTSA Consortium Oversight Committee Co- chairs, Dr. Lars Berglund and Dr. Rob Califf, joined the steering committee for the general discussion. Points of discussion included combining the survey efforts from the Research Knowledge and Dissemination and the Research Education Working Groups to reduce the workload burden on committee members and to work on forming a permanent liaison between the CTSA Informatics Committee, caBIG and BIRN.

## **BIRN/caBIG Resource Announcements**

Dr. Greg Farber provided a brief overview of the BIRN program and announced that there are upcoming Funding Opportunity Announcements (FOA) in the area of data ontology and data federation that utilize BIRN and/or CaBIG infrastructure.

## **FDA Sentinel Network**

Dr. Marc Walton delivered an overview of the FDA Sentinel Network – a proposed federation of electronic databases that could assist in providing post-marketing medical product safety information.

## **Healthcare Standards**

Dr. John Loonsk presented an update on the Health Information Technology Standards Panel (HITSP) and American Health Information Committee Agenda (AHIC).

## **caBIG – Ready for Adoption/Adaption**

Dr. Ken Buetow and team provided an overview and demonstration of caBIG capabilities and the discussed the potential for caBIG adoption by other consortia.

## **Meeting Action Items**

**Action item:** Next steps for each of the working groups involve honing their plans and deliverables.

**Action item:** Dr. Elaine Collier will pursue additional resources for maintenance of list serve and additional methods for communication particularly for work groups.

**Action item:** A simple Wiki or other collaborative tool will be developed for posting documents and other materials.

**Action item:** A monthly phone call for leadership will be instituted to include one director (or a designee) from each center and the leads from the working groups. The first call is expected to be in July. Bill Hersh will coordinate.

**Action item:** A white paper will be developed detailing the differences between informatics and IT. Mike Becich is the lead.

**Action item:** Discussion will continue on possible alignment with caBIG and interaction with ONC.

**Action item:** A webinar on BIRN (Biomedical Informatics Resource Network) will be held in July. Additional information will be forthcoming.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 pm.