

March 2026



Laboratory Opportunities

Grant Writing Workshop

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Workshop

Collegial Corner

New ORI Coordinator

Laboratory Opportunities

Interested or know someone who is looking to work for a research lab at National Jewish Health. These opportunities are currently available:

Postgraduate Scholar – Abbott Lab, deadline **03-13-2026**

<https://jobsnationaljewish.hctsportals.com/jobs/2117063-postgraduate-scholar-abbott-lab>



Grant Writing Workshop – Jim Bridges, PhD

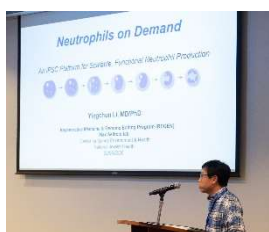
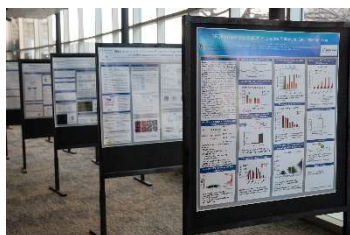
Applying for a grant? NIH or other? Check out our award-winning Grant Writing Workshops program. These workshops are designed to provide critical guidance and feedback for any level investigator. All faculty and fellows are welcome! They are interactive and feature hands-on practical reviews from various colleagues and faculty, to help investigators attain a thorough understanding of the grant writing and review process. Contact Coordinator Holly Johnson

(johnsonh@nnjhealth.org) for details. The NIH's official publication of notices of grant policies, guidelines and funding opportunity announcements (FOAs) is available in a searchable format. Visit: <https://grants.nih.gov/funding/nih-guide-for-grants-and-contracts>

"The quality of the feedback was outstanding..." "I strongly believe that my specific aims page has been dramatically improved from the two workshops." Preston Bratcher, PhD, workshops in February, 2026

Research Retreat

The 2026 Research Retreat is in the books and was very well attended with participants from Immunology and Genomic Medicine, Medicine, Pediatrics, and Radiology. Abstract winners are **Stephanie Bersie, PhD candidate**, Immunology and Genomic Medicine, *Macrophage Handling of Particulate-laden Cell Corpses Drives Retention and Inflammation* and **Yingchun Li, MD, PhD**, Genetics, *Generation of functional neutrophils from iPSCs derived from human airway epithelial cells*. Poster winners are **Lennart Jost, Student Researcher**, Medicine, *Estrogen Receptor β Inhibits Expression of RNA Editing Enzyme in Pulmonary Arterial Endothelial Cells* and **Johnathon Schafer, PhD**, Immunology and Genomic Medicine, *Spliceosome Mutations in Myelodysplastic Syndrome Impair Host Defense*.



Thank you to:

- Gregory Downey, MD, EVP Academic Affairs & Provost, Academic Affairs, who provided opening remarks
- Derek Abbott, MD, PhD, Chair, Department of Immunology and Genomic Medicine, Keynote Speaker, *"A Cell's Last Act: The Many Ways to Die and Why Drug Discovery Cares"*
- Abstract and poster reviewers Lilliana Radoshevich, PhD, Immunology and Genomic Medicine; Julia Woodcock, PhD, Medicine; Elena Goleva, PhD, Pediatrics; James Bridges, PhD, Medicine; Elizabeth Redente, PhD, Pediatrics; Hong Wei Chu, MD, Medicine; Brain Day, PhD, Medicine
- Organizers and support from Kristin Crowell, Sharon Hart, Holly Johnson, Julie Banta, and Langdon Crawford



The RAC – Elizabeth Redente, PhD

The RAC continues to meet monthly to discuss faculty concerns that are brought forward to our group. We are currently working with Dr. Evan Stepp to understand the results of the Annual Faculty Well-Being survey for Scientists that was sent to Faculty in December.

We will also be reviewing Boettcher Awards in April and look forward to hosting another round of Medical Science Incubator Funding in the next several months.

Research Happy Hour

March 13, 2026, 3 to 5 PM, Molly Blank J104/105, Mah Jongg COPD Accelerator Awardee presentations by: Fabienne Gally, PhD; R. Lee Reinhardt, PhD; Alexandra McCubbrey, PhD and James Bridges, PhD

SAVE THE DATE

April 10, 2026, 3 to 5PM, Molly Blank J104/105, NJH Asthma Awardee presentations

May 8, 2026, 3 to 5 PM, Molly Blank J104/105, Medical Science Concept Awardee presentations



Accomplished Seminar – Paul B. McCray, Jr., MD, Chief Scientific Officer, Department of Pediatrics, University of Iowa will be speaking on April 1, 2026 at 12 pm in Heitler Hall. His research interests and accomplishments include:

- Airway epithelial biology in cystic fibrosis (CF)
- Role of host-pathogen interactions in CF
- Develop viral and non-viral vectors to correct gene mutations in CF
- Trailblazer Award; Distinguished Alumni Award for Achievement.
- Induction into American Clinical and Climatological Association



Workshop – Kambez H. Benam, DPhil, Associate Professor of Medicine and Bioengineering, Director of Innovation and Entrepreneurship, University of Pittsburgh will be speaking about the lung-on-a-chip model on May 13, 2026 at 12 pm via Zoom. His research interests and accomplishments include:

- **Nature Methods** (2015): *"Small Airway-on-a-Chip Enables Analysis of Human Lung Inflammation and Drug Responses in Vitro"*
- **Nature Protocols** (2020): *"A Microfluidically Compatible Modular Smoking Robot for Inhalation Exposure of In Vitro Cultures"*
- Founder of Translational and Multidisciplinary Lung Microengineering Lab
- ATS Respiratory Structure & Function Assembly Science and Innovation Rising Star
- Society of Toxicology Biotechnology Specialty Section Best Paper of the Year

Collegial Corner – Research-focused events, from our partner institutions

The **Colorado Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute (CCTSI)** is an NIH-funded program that supports clinical and translational research with the goal of accelerating discoveries to improve health.

Free membership provides access to expert consultations, research resources, pilot funding, and a wide range of **education and career development programs** for researchers at all levels. CCTSI offers training in grant writing, leadership, mentoring, communication, and team science, along with funding opportunities through pilot grant programs in areas such as cross-disciplinary research, child and maternal health, and community engagement. **Anyone involved in clinical and translational research**, including investigators, trainees, postdocs, and research professionals, can benefit by joining.

Learn more or become a member at <https://cctsi.cuanschutz.edu>



New ORI Coordinator – Holly Johnson, johnsonh@njhealth.org

Holly comes to National Jewish Health having worked at both private and non-profit institutions. Most recently, she was a legal assistant at an insurance defense firm supporting partners whose focus was on personal injury and construction defect. Prior to that, she was a jack of all trades at a father-daughter law firm handling everything from Supreme Court briefs to filing quarterly tax returns. Holly grew up in Chicago and has lived in Denver the last 22 years. She is excited to be supporting research efforts at NJH. Welcome Holly!



2026 Boettcher Award

One NJH researcher will receive a grant of \$250,000 covering up to three years of research activity; awardee will be an early-career investigator who is within four years of appointment in a career-track academic position and who has not previously received a major independent award.

Deadline: Applications are due to your Department Administrator and Chair by noon March 16, 2026



- Guaranteed grant award of USD\$100,000
 - One year of therapeutics development support and project management with potential to renew for a second year based on milestones met
 - Access to core facilities and infrastructure including oligonucleotide synthesis and screening, small molecule and protein platforms, cell and gene therapy facilities
 - Opportunity to compete for acceleration funds up to \$300,000
 - Opportunity to qualify for investment funds up to \$1,000,000 according to project requirements
 - NOTE: IP rights are retained by the awardee or their institution
- Deadline: March 9, 2026



Rheumatology/Clinical Trials only

<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-24-279.html>

Collaboration with industry for technology development (broad)

<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-24-325.html>

Advancing Microbiome Science Through Multidisciplinary Mechanistic Investigations of the Human Microbiome in Health and Disease

<https://grants.nih.gov/funding/find-a-fit-for-your-research/highlighted-topics/21>