

# Fred & Pamela Buffett Cancer Center Training Navigator Newsletter

## February 2024 Newsletter Volume 1

Fred & Pamela Buffett Cancer  
Center NCI Training Navigator  
Administrative Supplement

Have a question  
about a funding  
opportunity? Email  
Misty Pocwierz-  
Gaines at  
[misty.pocwierz@unmc.edu](mailto:misty.pocwierz@unmc.edu)



Misty Pocwierz-  
Gaines, MA,  
Lead Training  
Navigator

## Training Navigator Scholarships

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Through the Training Navigator program, we are able to provide trainees with scholarships to attend conferences and professional development events. As of February 2024, we have awarded ~\$10,000 in each of two categories of scholarships (conference scholarships and professional development scholarships), and several more applications are currently under consideration. Through these scholarships, trainees have been able to attend events such as grantsmanship training courses, the annual American Association for Cancer Research Conference, Epigenetics Bootcamps, and the San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium. The funding for these scholarships is limited, and so if you are interested in applying for funding, please email Misty Pocwierz-Gaines soon.

# Introduction to Bioinformatics – An Online Course

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This is a FREE online course that was developed by Dr. Jordan Rowley and Dr. Babu Guda at UNMC for anyone interested in learning the basics of bioinformatics. This self-paced course has seven modules, each covering a different topic. Each module also offers examples and datasets for hands-on practice, flashcards, and quizzes.

The modules are:

1. Introduction to the Field of Bioinformatics
2. Online Bioinformatics Resources and Tools
3. Advanced BLAST Searching
4. Multi-omics Technologies
5. NGS Data Analysis: An Overview
6. Functional Characterization of Genes and Gene Products
7. Using R and Bioconductor for Data Analysis

Have questions?  
contact [aveerappa@unmc.edu](mailto:aveerappa@unmc.edu)

**This course is sponsored by Nebraska INBRE and the Center for Biomedical Informatics Research and Innovation (CBIRI).** Any participant from a qualified nonprofit organization (education, healthcare, research, government, etc.) in the state of Nebraska can register for this course for FREE. Please use the link below to start the registration process. Please make sure to use your nonprofit institutional email ID to qualify for registering. The course registration link will be sent to your institutional email.

To get started, please complete the registration approval form using your official institutional email:

Registration Approval Form: [https://forms.gle/yRDwYpp\\_iWmNgyvWt7](https://forms.gle/yRDwYpp_iWmNgyvWt7)

# Upcoming NCI Deadline

## F31 Diversity Predoctoral Fellowship ([PA-21-052](#))

- **Objective:** To increase biomedical workforce diversity by supporting mentored research training leading to a PhD or combined dual doctoral degrees.
- **Benefits**
  - Mentored research training.
  - Present and publish research findings.
  - Strengthen grants skillset.
  - Enhance competitiveness for NIH funding.
  - **Student is the PI of the F31.**
- Support is provided for up to 5 (Ph.D.) or 6 years (combined degrees, ex.MD/PhD)



Questions about this NIH funding mechanism?  
Contact Dr. Anthony DiBello  
[Anthony.dibello@nih.gov](mailto:Anthony.dibello@nih.gov)

NIH Deadline	Internal Deadline to Sponsored Programs
April 8	April 4
August 8	August 5
December 8	December 5

# NIH Biosketches

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All participants in the Training Navigator Program have been asked to submit a biosketch and you may be wondering why. The answer is so that we and the NCI Training Navigator Program Officers can identify which NCI funding mechanisms are best for you.



If you have already submitted your biosketch, thank you! If you have not, please do so at your earliest opportunity.

For NIH biosketch instructions and templates, visit <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/forms/biosketch.htm>

If you need assistance creating your biosketch, please email Misty Pocwierz-Gaines.

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## Did You Know?



NIH also has a checklist that you can use to optimize your biosketch. The following list is adapted from <https://www.niaid.nih.gov/grants-contracts/create-biosketches>.

- Does your personal statement showcase your skills?
- Does your biosketch convince reviewers that you are the right person to lead the research?
- Do the publications chosen reveal your skills?
- Is the information in your biosketch up to date and consistent with the rest of your application?

## Contact Information:



Fred & Pamela Buffett Cancer Center

### **Misty Pocwierz-Gaines**

Lead Training Navigator

402-559-4092

[misty.pocwierz@unmc.edu](mailto:misty.pocwierz@unmc.edu)

Yvonne Rodriguez

Assistant Training

Navigator

402-559-7812

[yvrodriquez@unmc.edu](mailto:yvrodriquez@unmc.edu)

Joyce Solheim

Project Leader

402-559-4539

[jsolheim@unmc.edu](mailto:jsolheim@unmc.edu)

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## What Opportunities Does NCI Offer for You?

Dr. Joyce Solheim will present news about the many grant opportunities available through the NCI on:

**Feb. 26 at noon**

**Feb. 27 at 5:00 p.m.**

The two presentations will be the same but offered twice to accommodate the varied schedules of participants. These NCI opportunities will include programs offered by:

- **The Continuing Umbrella of Research Experiences (CURE)**
- **The Center to Reduce Cancer Health Disparities**
- **The Intramural CURE (iCURE)**

Zoom Link:

<https://unmc.zoom.us/j/94799916136?pwd=M1Y1dXB6ZkNxV0VBTWcxL25sOUxiQT09&from=addon>

