

Dear Colleague,

You are receiving this email because you have used the GCRC in the past.

As most if not all of you know, Northwestern University received a Clinical and Translational Science Award (CTSA) from the NIH this last May. Explicit in the receipt of this award is that the GCRC ceases to exist as such and that its operations continue in a new and improved form within the CTSA- and more specifically within the **Center for Clinical Research** of the Northwestern University Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute (NUCATS).

The Center for Clinical Research is directed by Andrea Dunaif and is comprised of two inter-connected programs, Clinical Research Support (directed by Mary McDermott) and Regulatory Support (Lew Smith). **The “new GCRC” is now known as the Clinical Research Unit (CRU)** and is directed by Rosalind Ramsey-Goldman. More details can be found at <http://www.nucats.northwestern.edu/centers/ccr/index.html>

We have been planning for the GCRC to CRU transition for some time, but as you may imagine, this is a complex process and it is essential that we get it right. Things are not quite ready for prime time, but in the interests of continuity and open communication with users, follow some salient points regarding CRU operations during this transitional phase. This is the first of what will be a regular series of communications to the CRU user community.

New Projects: we have simplified the application forms and instructions from the old GCRC process. *These are posted at CRU website listed above.* The next phase is to integrate and further simplify the application process so that it is a module within the eIRB system. This should eliminate redundancies in completing forms and in requests for changes or additional information. We will keep you posted as we continue to streamline the application process.

We will continue to communicate regularly during this transition phase, but in the meantime however, please don't hesitate to contact Audra Soulias at 312-926-3193 who can best triage your questions to either Kelly Carroll or Rosalind Ramsey-Goldman. We are very excited about the new CRU and an attendant increase in quality and range of services available to investigators

FROM

Andrea Dunaif, Director for Center for Clinical Research

Mary McDermott, Program Director for Clinical Research Support Program

Roz Ramsey-Goldman, Program Director for Clinical Research Unit

Cc Phil Greenland, Director NUCATS Institute