



University of Cincinnati 7th Annual Pilot Research Project Symposium October 12-13, 2006

Pilot Research Training Program Overview

October 12-13, 2006 marks the University of Cincinnati Education and Research Center's (ERC) 7th Annual Pilot Research Project (PRP) symposium here at the University's Kehoe Auditorium (located in the Kettering Laboratory Building). The purpose of the PRP is to increase the research capacity of research trainees and young investigators in occupational health and safety and to encourage those in related disciplines to pursue occupational health and safety research.

Under the administrative direction of Dr. Amit Bhattacharya, research proposals are solicited and peer-reviewed annually from qualified faculty and graduate students from the University of Cincinnati and the following PRP partner institutions- Bowling Green State University, University of Toledo - Medical Science Campus, Central State University, Purdue University, University of Kentucky, Western Kentucky University, Eastern Kentucky University, Murray State University and Kentucky State University.

At this symposium, the 2005-06 awardees will be presenting results of their research and the 2006-07 awardees will make poster presentations of their proposed work. This year's keynote speakers will be Dr. DeLon Hull, Associate Director for the Research & Technology Transfer, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) and Dr. Gurumurthy Ramachandran, Professor, University of Minnesota - Twin Cities. They will speak on: "Moving Research to Practice at NIOSH" and "Evaluating Professional Judgment in Industrial Hygiene Decision-Making", respectfully. There will also be opportunities to speak with all the presenters individually.

The University of Cincinnati's Education and Research Center is one of 16 such centers funded by the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) nationally. Dr. C. Scott Clark serves as the director of the ERC, which is based in the University's Department of Environmental Health within the College of Medicine. The ERC's purpose is to train professionals in the didactic and research necessary to lead the occupational safety and health disciplines. Results of research are translated into action through an outreach program and shared with professionals and practitioners in the region via continuing education.

Since 1999, the PRP program has allocated over \$500,000 to support pilot research projects. These projects have served as a catalyst in bringing over \$3.6 million in additional research support to the region from sources independent in the PRP program, such as, the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Additionally, the PRP also brought 15 new investigators from other fields of expertise to the area of occupational safety and health research.

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