

CANCER EDUCATION and CAREER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM http://www.sph.uth.tmc.edu/ncifellowships/

Name:

Date:

Performance Expectations for Predoctoral Fellows, Mentors, and Program Directors

Predocs	Mentors	Program Directors	
Area 1: Individual Development Plan ("IDP"), coursework, and the qualifying examination			
 □ Read "Performance Expectations" and discuss any questions and concerns with mentors and program directors □ Develop a detailed Individual Development Plan (IDP), with specific dates for achieving objectives, including the Degree Plan and milestones □ Update the IDP and this checklist, discuss with mentors, and submit it with progress reports 3x/year □ Take full-time coursework, the Pre-/Postdoc-toral Research Seminar (the seminar) every semester, including summer <i>Take additional courses as follows:</i> □ Cancer epidemiology □ Intervention Mapping (short course ok) □ Systematic Review/Meta-analysis □ Innovation Generation MOOC □ Public Health Ethics □ Earn above average grades in rigorous courses appropriate for the degree and research career □ Take "boot camps" offered by core course instructors and prepare for the preliminary exam □ Pass the preliminary exam ≤ 15 mo of starting the doctoral program 	 Read this document and discuss any questions and concerns with the fellow and program directors Assist in the development of the IDP, including assurance that the relevant degree plan is included Assure that the IDP and this checklist are up to date and use it for advising and assessing progress 3x/year Advise rigorous coursework to assure all requirement for graduation are met (Degree Plan) and rigorous preparation for a research career Review grades and comments at the end of each term and speak with course instructors when indicated; assure that incompletes and dropped courses are noted on progress reports Provide timely, detailed critical feedback on scientific writing and recommendations for remedial courses Suggest resources to prepare for the preliminary exam, e.g., "boot camps" offered by core course instructors 	 Keep this document up to date and assure that fellows and mentors understand it and discuss any questions and concerns Require an IDP within 1 mo of the initial appt and use it for advising and assessing progress Assure that the IDP and this checklist are up to date and used for advising and assessing progress 3x/year Monitor performance in coursework and progress toward completion of the degree and preparation for a research career Suggest resources to help prepare for the preliminary exam, e.g., "boot camps" offered by core course instructors 	

Predocs	Mentors	Program Directors	
Area 2: Experience on research projects			
Gain research experience as follows to fill in gaps: Identification of research questions Selection of design(s) appropriate for the study questions Application of theory and evidence in intervention development Development of a grant/contract proposal: Budget & justification Specific aims Background/significance/innovation Recruitment plan/consent process Research design Analysis plan Writing/management of letters of support Design/submission of an IRB protocol Recruitment of study participants Selection of measures and assessment of psychometric properties Development and testing of new measures Data collection Participation in interaction with community and other research partners Intervention implementation Data management Data analysis Plans for publications, including selecting journals, authorship and acknowledgements Use Ref Works or other bibliographic software Produce one co-authored publication before the dissertation	 Assist in planning an appropriate set of research experiences Monitor the types and quality of research experiences and consider rotation to other projects Pay special attention to opportunities for coauthored publications Set a goal of one co-authored publication before the dissertation Provide timely, detailed critical feedback on scientific writing and recommendations for remedial courses Model productive writing and teamwork in developing papers, deciding on lead authors, deciding on authorship order, and selecting appropriate journals Encourage and check on use of Ref Works (free) or other bibliographic software 	 Provide an overview of opportunities for research experience Assist in selecting research placements Include fellows' research experience on progress report forms and plans Monitor the types of research experiences fellows acquire and consider rotation to other projects Provide an ongoing forum for discussing sources of and strategies for obtaining research experience Pay special attention to opportunities for co-authored publications Set a goal of one co-authored publication before the dissertation Provide guidelines, examples, and a forum to discuss productive writing and teamwork in developing papers, deciding on authors and authorship order, and selecting appropriate journals Provide a "writing tutorial" through the services of an editor on 2-3 pieces of written work and examples of edited papers Provide access to bibliographic management software (Ref Works is free) to help fellows start, refine, and maintain a personal academic citation database Provide a guide for writing research proposals 	

Predocs	Mentors	Program Directors
Area 3: Independent research: The dissertation		
Ar □ Attend dissertation proposal defenses and oral presentations of other doctoral students □ Prepare a concept paper for a dissertation and select a dissertation supervisor ≤ 9 mo of passing the preliminary exam □ Form the dissertation committee ≤ 12 mo of passing the preliminary exam □ Using consultation from mentors, program directors, other fellows, etc., structure the timely writing of a dissertation proposal through coursework, seminar presentations, other □ Prepare an original proposal for a dissertation in a cancer-related area that will fill a knowledge gap and start a productive line of research; base the choice of dissertation questions on a systematic review of the relevant literature □ Defend the dissertation proposal ≤ 24 mo of matriculation □ Obtain committee and IRB approval for the dissertation proposal ≤ 26 mo of matriculation □ Complete the dissertation paper before graduation □ Defend the dissertation paper before graduation □ Defend the dissertation papers < 1 year of graduation	ea 3: Independent research: The dissertation	 Help fellows identify new areas of research in cancer prevention and control Provide an ongoing forum to observe the dissertation development process, including methods for structuring the process through coursework, presentations in the seminar, other Make explicit the expectation of a quality dissertation with potential for publication of individual manuscripts Provide an ongoing forum for presenting dissertation ideas at preliminary as well as advanced stages; encourage the dissertation supervisor to attend Coach fellows and mentors on expectations of the dissertation funding (\$4000) Provide a guide for writing research proposals Provide editing assistance for dissertation papers

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Area 4: Publications/presentations at national conferences			
 Make ≥ 2 poster/paper presentations at national meetings during the fellowship Submit abstracts for review by co-author(s) and mentors Assist mentors in reviewing ≥2 manuscripts Prepare manuscripts from the presentations Use appropriate reporting guidelines and models in preparing manuscripts Use JANE (Journal-Author-Name-Estimator) and other resources in selecting journals Be aware that the journal will levy page charges and make arrangements with co-authors and fellowship directors before submitting a ms. Follow authorship guidelines in deciding who is an author and authorship order, and communicate early and clearly to assure agreement Describe the responsibilities of each author (at the planning stage and periodically, including at submission) Keep an up-to-date papers table provided by the training directors and submit it as part of progress reports Acknowledge the training grant (with the NIH disclaimer) and any other support in papers. For all papers written in whole or in part during the fellowship or based on research conducted in whole or in part during the fellowship, make sure the paper is deposited in accordance with NIH public access requirements. Take responsibility for meeting open access requirements for all publications, even if not 1st author 	 Send abstract information for appropriate conferences and meetings Review the abstract before submission, make comments as needed, and help the fellow develop a plan and timeline to write a publishable manuscript If appropriate, sponsor the fellow's travel from an appropriate research grant Involve the fellow in reviewing ≥2 manuscripts for journals If appropriate, sponsor the fellow's page charges for manuscripts published in open access journals Demonstrate familiarity with JANE (Journal-Author-Name-Estimator) and other resources in selecting journals Discuss the possibility of journal page charges and assure that the fellow makes arrangements in advance with co-authors and fellow-ship directors before submitting a ms. Be familiar with authorship guidelines and communicate your thinking and advice to the fellow as part of assessing her/his academic and professional progress Check that the fellow has acknowledged the training grant (with the NIH disclaimer) and other support appropriately in papers. For all papers written in whole or in part during the fellowship or based on research conducted in whole or in part during the fellowship, make sure the paper is deposited in accordance with NIH public access requirements. Monitor productivity, especially the production and submission of manuscripts from presentations and posters 	 Circulate and post notices of upcoming cancer-related meetings, with deadlines for abstracts Pay for one meeting/fellow/year plus an additional meeting of the Association for Preventive Oncology once during the fellowship Provide a forum for rehearsing oral presentations Provide examples of poster presentations and logos Pay for posters and provide a strong disincentive for making presentations without resulting manuscripts by withholding travel funds for fellows with poor follow-through Introduce JANE (Journal-Author-Name-Estimator) and other resources for selecting journals Make fellows aware of journal page charges and warn them to make arrangements with coauthors and program directors before submission Provide authorship guidelines and periodically convene discussions of case studies Model descriptions of the responsibilities of each author (at the planning stage and periodically, including at submission) Provide a template for a papers table and request updates as part of progress reports Provide information for the training grant acknowledgement and NIH disclaimer for all papers written in whole or in part during the fellowship; make sure the paper is deposited in accordance with NIH public access requirements. Instruct re: open access requirements for all publications, even if not 1st author 	

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Area 5: Teaching experience		
 Serve as a tutor for a problem-based learning class, e.g. Health Promotion Theory and Methods I, and receive a separate teaching evaluation Serve as a teaching assistant for one other class 	☐ ☐ Monitor the types of teaching experience the fellow acquires and help identify appropriate opportunities	 Monitor the types of teaching experience available and assure there is a record of fel- lows' performance Offer teacher training sessions
Area 6: Interpersonal skills		
Function appropriately on a research team, in classes, and in the seminar Attend dissertation presentations of graduating predocs and other doctoral students n the weekly seminar and participate constructively in the question and answer period	 Provide direct feedback to the fellow on teamwork skills and guide him/her on ways to improve these skills Seek indicators of the quality of the fellow's interpersonal skills in class (e.g., performance on group projects), as a tutor in problem-based learning classes, and provide feedback and guidance Make it normative to work on interpersonal skills 	 Work on interpersonal skills in the weekly seminar, e.g., giving respectful feedback, receiving feedback Make it normative to work on interpersonal skills Provide individual feedback Provide workshops on interpersonal communication Seek indicators of the quality of the fellow's interpersonal skills in class (e.g., performance on group projects), as a tutor in problem-based learning classes, and the research seminar, and provide feedback and guidance

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Are	Area 7: Recruitment and selection of new fellows		
 Help publicize the fellowship and SPH doctoral programs through national meetings, list-servers, informal communication with colleagues at other schools, and in meetings with applicants Attend presentations of applicants and offer comments about the potential "fit" Discuss the program with applicants Serve as a mentor to a new fellow 	 Help publicize the fellowship and SPH doctoral programs through national meetings, list-servers, informal communication with colleagues at other schools, and in meetings with potential applicants/applicants Discuss the program and a potential mentoring relationship with prospective and in-process doctoral applicants and with SPH students 	 Develop and distribute recruitment materials Develop and maintain a recruitment webpage with information about the program, mentors, and the setting Identify and recruit highly qualified applicants, especially from underrepresented ethnic/racial minority groups Provide ongoing communication and guidance for potential applicants and applicants and facilitate contact with potential adviser/mentors Make final decisions about primary and secondary mentors to the training program goals and mentor role Make changes in the mentoring assignments when indicated Provide a statement re: expectations of fellows, their mentors, and their mentors 	

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Area 8: Placement after graduation		
 □ Explore potential post-doc and faculty positions beginning 1 year before graduation □ Solicit the ideas of mentors, program directors, alumni, Advisory Committee members, and External Advisers on potential openings for postdoc and faculty positions and due dates □ Make use of examples of cover letters and goal statements on the Canvas course, "Resources for Doctoral Students" in writing cover letters for specific positions □ Rehearse job/postdoc interviews and job talks □ Provide mentors and program directors with current cv, cover letters and goal statements, and job descriptions ≥ 1 mo before the due date for letters of recommendation □ Obtain a postdoc or research position in a research institution or agency, ideally in a cancer center or working on cancer-related research 	 Encourage the timely exploration of potential postdoc and other research positions; include consideration of options such as writing an individual postdoc application or negotiating a postdoc position on a grant or minority supplement Use personal networks to help place the fellow Forward to the fellow relevant job-postings from list-servers and other sources Review the cv, cover letters, and goal statements for applications Read and critique cover letters and goal statements Participate in rehearsals for job/postdoc interviews and job talks Write timely and thoughtful letters of recommendation tailored to the specific application or position 	 □ Use the traineeship network and Advisory Committee to help mentors place fellows □ □ Circulate and post on the Canvas course, "Resources for Doctoral Students" and the bulletin board announcements of postdoctoral fellowships, faculty, and other positions □ □ Encourage timely exploration of potential post-doc and faculty positions; include consideration of options such as writing an individual post-doc application or negotiating a post-doc position on a grant or minority supplement □ □ Help fellows prepare for job talks and interviews through observation of others and rehearsal □ □ Advise fellows on format and content of CV's, cover letters, and goal statements for applications; keep examples on the Canvas course, "Resources for Doctoral Students" □ Write timely and thoughtful letters of recommendation tailored to the specific application or position
Area 9: Evaluation of training ne	eeds and accomplishments and the effectiveness o	f mentoring relationships
 Provide mentors and program directors with progress reports and an up-to-date IDP 3x/year Use this checklist to describe the performance of mentors and program directors as part of the progress report Discuss the progress reports and updated IDP with mentors and program directors and evaluate progress, training needs, and the effectiveness of the mentoring relationships 	 Three times per year, before the progress report is submitted: discuss the IDP and progress reports with the fellow; help identify barriers to and potential solutions for satisfactory progress; review this checklist and note especially her/his perception of mentors' performance; discuss the effectiveness of the mentoring relationships and ways to improve it Provide suggestions to the program directors regarding support for fellows and mentors 	 Discuss progress reports and updated training plans with the Advisory Committee at least 2x/year and provide fellows and mentors with feedback, suggestions, and coaching Solicit suggestions for improvement when discussing progress reports and updated training plans with the Advisory Committee, especially fellows' perceptions of program directors' performance

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Area 10: Evaluation of the training program		
 Participate in evaluation efforts with an outside evaluator as requested After completing training, respond to requests from the Program Director for information about publications, grants and other achievements as required by NCI 	☐ ☐ Participate in other evaluation activities with an outside evaluator as requested	 Provide opportunities for fellows and mentors to identify weaknesses and suggest improvements in the program directly and through an outside evaluator Stay in touch with alumni to foster their professional development and facilitate data collection for progress reports