

Session 4 – Breakout Discussion: Envisioning the Future Landscape

Virtual Participant Responses

Question 1: What key elements or guiding principles should be considered to sustainably support/enable this career path or area?

- Investigator Physician
 - Lindsay Eyzaguirre (Johns Hopkins School of Medicine)
 - We need to make sure junior and/or minority investigators have the tools to conduct multi center clinical trials. We need more mentorship in this area.
- Study Coordinator
 - Stephanie Jo Brewster (Boston Childrens Hospital)
 - Better outreach to educational institutions, recruitment approaches not based on GPA, transcript, inclusion of retention activities to support coord throughout employment timeline
 - Karen Manrique
 - Sustainability will need considerations of clear pathways that include professional development (getting certified with SOCRA/ACRP- having accessible education and training courses to maintain certificates) and advancement within the field
 - Denise Snyder
 - We need an identity established for careers in clinical research for the staff who work in this area. They need to be valued and especially at the sites where they are on the frontlines.

Question 2: What is one tangible and measurable milestone that could be achieved within the next 5 years towards enabling the future workforce?

- Investigator Physician
 - Lindsay Eyzaguirre
 - The number of minority investigator initiated clinical trials now vs. 5 years from now.
- Study Coordinator
 - Chelsea Stunden
 - Providing practical work experiences for people in health research and/or clinical research that do not have the training and experience to work in regulated clinical trials to transition into the workforce.
 - Stephanie Jo Brewster (Boston Childrens Hospital)
 - Increased recruitment, retention, and job satisfaction with an EDI lens.
 - Stephen Sonstein
 - Funding, education, and training programs for HCPs other than PIs.

- Dr. Mary Beals
 - Research opportunities and an increase in graduate study.
- Karen Manrique
 - Measuring advancement within the role For example: research assistant > research coordinator I > research coordinator II.
- Denise Snyder
 - Getting some level of tracking and trending across sites on who is employed in this area with dedicated jobs and career pathways. We need to be inclusive of many types of students coming into this path. The focus on PIs is needed to, but there is much neglect of showcasing this as a career path for students.
- AI/Machine Learning
 - Dr. Mary Beals
 - Research opportunities and an increase in graduate study.
- Community Engagement
 - Belen Hurle
 - Expand STEM outreach into high schools.
 - Jo Solorzano
 - Be a mentor to more young professionals and contribute to the inclusion of underrepresented communities in clinical trials. I would like to mentor and also support under represent communities participate more in clinical trials.
 - Christina Veloz
 - Retention.
 - Shannon Mason
 - Increase in community engagement numbers, reflected by increased consistent attendance to school district meetings by community stakeholders (parents, guardians, residents, local businesses, school district staff, and students).
 - Elizabeth Arangies
 - Better community engagement in trials through strategies discussed at the protocol development stage and implemented as part of trial operations, just as we currently implement the clinical steps of our protocols.
 - Apurva Uniyal
 - Build expertise across disciplines.
 - Amandla Atilano-Roque
 - Creating new hiring strategies and practices.
 - Robet Gump
 - Outreach at middle school level.