PAULA TURPEN, PH.D.

Paula Turpen, Ph.D., is a wealth of information about the inner workings of UNMC’s research enterprise. She monitors the use of research space, manages and develops institutional research core facilities, communicates research funding opportunities, administers internal research funding programs and evaluates the growth and development of research activity.

Dr. Turpen received a bachelor’s degree in biology from the Rochester Institute of Technology in New York, and a doctorate in biology from the Pennsylvania State University, State College.

She was a post doctoral fellow and faculty member at UNMC in the department of genetics, cell biology and anatomy from 1983-1991. During this time, Dr. Turpen taught embryology to medical students and conducted NIH- and NSF-funded research on the embryonic development of the vertebrate hematopoietic and immune systems using an amphibian model.

While a faculty member and director of the Laboratory of Cell Stabilization at UNMC in the department of obstetrics and gynecology from 1991-2004, Dr. Turpen studied preservation of cellular information, specifically protein antigens. She applied this technology to studies on cancer immunology and vaccine development. Using this technology with antigen stabilization, she developed several products for the clinical laboratory that are in commercial use today.
UNMC Resources for Research

Office of Research
http://www.unmc.edu/research.htm
- Clinical Trials
- Research Administrative Support
- Research Core Facilities
- Funding Opportunities

UNMC’s Intranet (Quick Links)
http://info.unmc.edu/

Academic and Department Information System (ADIS)
https://edge.unmc.edu/adis/index.asp?bw=p
- Research Interest Checklist
- MESH search of publications
- Faculty Records
- User Manual

Research Support Systems (RSS)
https://net.unmc.edu/risc/secure/index.asp?bw=p
- Sponsored Programs
  - cost transfer justification for JE>$500 and older than 90 days
  - who to call for salary info
- IRB (inactive)
- IACUC (inactive)
- Comparative Medicine
  - animal contact form/training/view approved; animal counts
- Core Facilities
  - directory, scheduling, billing
- Conflict of Interest / Outside Employment
- Clinical Trials
  - post, public search stats
- Classifieds / Tips
  - offers, wanted, techniques, about
- Research Interests
  - survey and search for collaborators and expertise
The Office of Research subscribes to SciVal Funding which targets funding opportunities based on your own publication history and will deliver them directly to your email in-box. This unique tool also allows researchers to search current opportunities by keyword and set up alerts for new programs. This database has opportunities from federal as well as non-federal sponsors.

UNMC has many Shared Resources and Core Facilities that provide services to researchers. Many have individual websites linked to this list. If you do not find what you are looking for please contact me.

Another useful resource is the Research Users Group (RUG). The purpose of this group is to share information, resources and training that focus on skills related to research. Topics covered recently include finding funding opportunities, using ADIS, core facility management, writing productively.

The campus-wide Academic Department Information System called ADIS has many useful applications. Simply log in from anywhere on campus using your lotus notes UNMC user id and password. You can create an NIH biosketch with a single key-stroke once your professional information has been entered into the system. ADIS will allow you to search faculty publications by keyword or name. You can also access and search the Research Interest Survey designed to help connect scientists, clinicians and other potential collaborators based on interests and expertise. We invite you to complete this very quick Research Interest Survey tool, which will then allow you to use the search function. Go to "Research Interests" and select "Survey". The tool that appears allows you to check as many interests as you like within organ systems, disease focus areas, populations, and research expertise areas. Click "submit" when you have completed the survey. You can then return to ADIS and revise your interests at any time. To use the search tool, select "Research Interests" again, and then choose the "search" option. In this window, you can choose as many or few items as you desire to tailor your search. The profile of individuals who match your search criteria will appear, including their location and contact information.

The Research Support Services (RSS) site also has many useful applications for researchers. Use your lotus notes user id and password to log in from anywhere either on or off campus. You can access the scheduling and billing system for institutional research Core Facilities, the Research Interest Survey, Classifieds/Tips, intended to be used to buy, sell, trade, share or give away research-related supplies, equipment and technical information, as well as forms for Sponsored Programs, Comparative Medicine, Conflict of Interest, and Clinical Trials (in development).

Both ADIS and RSS can be accessed via Quick Links.

If you would like guidance in preparing your research proposal to the NIH, Ms. Melody Montgomery, the Editorial Grants Specialist at UNMC, can help. Melody has a degree in Chemistry with a minor in English. She has experience with the preparation of grants for the NIH and CDC and has co-authored publications. She will expand on the resources Jessica has developed and assist grant seekers of all levels – from graduate students who have little experience with grant writing to senior investigators that want to know more about what reviewers will be looking for in the next funding cycle.

Lastly, check out the Office of Research website for other useful information and links regarding research at UNMC, including a directory of Active Clinical Trials.