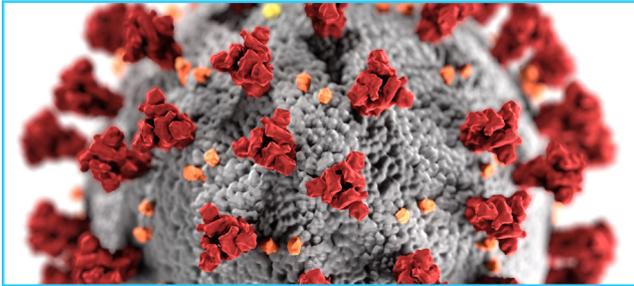




2019-20 ANNUAL REPORT

Life Science Community Support



RESEARCH FACILITY SECURITY TRAINING

In November, NCABR partnered with the N.C. Information Sharing and Analysis Center and the State and Federal Bureaus of Investigation to provide a members-only program about current security threats for animal research programs.

COVID-19 PANDEMIC SUPPORT

In March, NCABR submitted a request to Governor Roy Cooper to recognize researchers, veterinarians, animal care staff, vendors and suppliers as essential employees in a Shelter-in-Place scenario. NCABR held a virtual member meeting to share COVID-19 impacts on research, and NCABR provided resources, including a certification letter for use with staff deemed essential for travel to/from work, a free compassion fatigue webinar and survey data looking at how research institutions nationwide were dealing with COVID-19 impacts.

The following spring programs were moved to later dates due to the COVID-19 pandemic:

IACUC, IBC AND IRB SUPPORT

NCABR will partner with the Massachusetts Society for Medical Research, the FBI and the Maine Regulatory Training and Ethics Center to present *The Three I's: Research Integrity & Biosecurity – Promoting Research, Integrity and Compliance by Providing Training in the Ethical and Responsible Conduct of Research* on September 14–16 in Chapel Hill.

MEMBER CONVERSATIONS

NCABR will partner with UNC Greensboro to hold a program in summer 2020 addressing public/open access to federally funded research data.

Educational Outreach



K-16 STEM EDUCATION CONFERENCE

In October, NCABR presented the eighth annual *Bridging the Gap: Uniting North Carolina K–16 STEM Education* conference, whose goal is to strengthen K–16 science, technology, engineering and math education throughout North Carolina.

Bridging the Gap, with sold-out registration in 2019, was attended by all levels of K–12 and higher education, and by state and federal government employees, industry representatives and individuals from nonprofit STEM groups, such as science museums and grassroots education organizations.

Topics addressed at the conference included STEM hiring needs in North Carolina, inquiry-based, hands-on STEM classroom activities and citizen science initiatives available throughout the state.

Bridging the Gap was sponsored by the Appalachian State University Office of Research; Biogen; the Biogen Foundation; the Burroughs Wellcome Fund; Davidson College; Meredith College; the North Carolina Biotechnology Center; the North Carolina Science, Mathematics, and Technology Education Center; N.C. State University; Novozymes and Workmonger. Partnering organizations were the Kenan Fellows Program for Teacher Leadership, the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction and The Science House at N.C. State University.

Since *Bridging the Gap* launched in 2012, more than 3,270 individuals from 96 North Carolina counties and 25 states have participated. The ninth edition is scheduled for October 27–28, 2020.



K-12 TEACHER WORKSHOPS & CONFERENCES

In 2019-20, NCABR continued to reach educators and students throughout the state with its *Rx for Science Literacy* K-12 curriculum manual and teacher training series. The series, currently in its 26th consecutive school year, has been attended by more than 4,980 K-12 teachers from 96 of North Carolina's 100 counties since 1994.

The 2019-20 series addressed regenerative medicine, vaccines, sleep disorders and cell biology and cancer. Sponsors for the 2019-20 workshops were Clarion University, Duke University and the Wake Forest School of Medicine. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, three spring workshops will be postponed until early fall 2020.

The *Rx for Science Literacy* curriculum manual, which serves as the foundation for many of the workshops in the annual series, has been mandated for statewide use in North Carolina high schools since 1997.

In 2019-20, NCABR facilitated the Science, Teachers and Research Summer (STaRS) Experience, a two-week program for high school teachers at the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences. NCABR also provided bioscience speakers for the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction's annual Career and Technical Education professional development conference in Greensboro.

After COVID-19 canceled all NCABR spring K-12 programs, NCABR pivoted quickly to connect teachers with its online bioscience resources, among them career videos, a biotech short film and a free biomanufacturing curriculum – all ideal for virtual instruction with students.