



Boston Pepper OAIC Research and Education Core

Core Leaders:

Lewis Lipsitz, MD

Amy Wagers, PhD

Edward Marcantonio, MD



BOSTON PEPPER
CENTER

REC Goals

- To train future independent research scientists who have the knowledge and the skill to translate fundamental mechanisms of disease and disability into novel interventions that can improve the health, physical function, and well-being of people as they age.
- The REC achieves this by selecting the most promising early career scientists from clinical and basic science disciplines, and providing them with both collective and individual educational activities, research experiences, mentoring, and career guidance that will enable them to acquire future career development or research awards and ultimately become leaders in translational research devoted to the discovery of function promoting therapies (FPTs).



BOSTON PEPPER
CENTER

REC Activities

- Trainee recruitment and selection annually (17 applications)
- Secondary mentoring (provides unbiased mentoring and advocacy, separate from primary mentor)
- Individual Development Plan preparation and tracking
- Monthly seminar series
- Supports the self-organized “Aging Researchers in Early Stages” (ARIES) group.
- Collaboration and cross-fertilization with Boston Roybal Center and Harvard Catalyst (CTSA) through shared positions and resources.



BOSTON PEPPER
CENTER

REC Accomplishments

- REC Awardees have published 45 manuscripts and received 11 grants since the start of funding 2.5 years ago.
- ARIES group now includes nearly 20 members, is co-led by REC Awardees, meets every 1-2 months, and provides peer mentoring and collaborative support, including review of each other's' specific aims and grants.
- Since the start of ARIES, 4 K awards and one R03 have been funded to participants.
- 3 REC awardees have completed their awards and 2 were newly funded.

First REC Awardees: Successes over 2.5 yrs.

- ***Michael Lustgarten, PhD:*** Tufts. 7 Papers. K01 from NIA: Role of the gut microbiome and the serum metabolome on lean mass and physical function in older adults.
- ***Indranil Sinha, MD:*** HMS/BWH. 4 Papers. K76 Beeson from NIA: Aging-associated dysregulation of the hypoxia pathway limits skeletal muscle regeneration.
- ***Ariela Orkaby, MD:*** HMS/BWH. 18 Papers. GEMSSTAR R03 from NIA: Frailty, statins and cardiovascular disease burden in older adults; VA CDA pending.

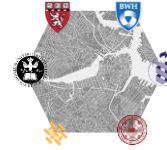


New REC Awardees: Cross-institutional collaboration and OAIC support

- ***Lien Quach, PhD, MPH, MD***: Mentor Jonathan Bean at VA GRECC, Co-mentor Thomas Trivison at HSL Marcus Institute and OAIC Biostats Core Director.
- ***Kieran F. Reid, PhD, MPH***: Mentor Roger Fielding at Tufts HNRCA and Functional Assessment Core Director, Co-mentor Thomas Trivison at HSL Marcus Institute and OAIC Biostats Core Director.



BOSTON PEPPER
CENTER



BOSTON PEPPER
CENTER

Innovation

- “Aging Researchers in Early Stages” (ARIES) Group
- Partnerships with Boston Roybal Center and Harvard Catalyst enables us to fund and train additional investigators.