

Middle Tennessee Research Administration and Innovation Network (M-TRAIN)

Workshop 4: June 12th, 2024



M-TRAIN WORKSHOP 4

LOCATION & TIMES

Date and Time	Wednesday, June 12 th , 2024, 8:30 am – 4:30 pm
Event Space Address	Vanderbilt University The Wond'ry Center for Innovation 2414 Highland Avenue, Nashville TN 37212
Parking Street Address	Vanderbilt University 25 th Avenue Staff Garage 2401 Highland Avenue, Nashville TN 37212

AGENDA

TIME	ACTIVITY
8:30 am – 9:00 am	Registration and Continental Breakfast
9:00 am – 9:15 am	Welcome Remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Padma Raghavan, Vice Provost for Research and Innovation, Vanderbilt University
9:15 am – 10:00 am	NSF GRANTED – Overview and Vision for the Future <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dina Stroud, Program Manager for GRANTED Program, National Science Foundation
10:00 am – 10:15 am	BREAK
10:15 am – 11:30 am	Breakout Session – Sustainability and Growth of M-TRAIN
11:30 am – 12:00 pm	Recap Breakout Session
12:00 pm – 1:00 pm	Networking Lunch
1:00 pm – 1:45 pm	Presentation from LaunchTN <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lindsey Cox, CEO • Charles Layne, Technology Advancement Manager • Jennifer Skjellum, Tennessee Technology Advancement Consortium (TTAC) University Advisor
1:45 pm – 2:55 pm	Ideation Session on M-TRAIN Projects
2:55 pm – 3:15 pm	Recap Ideation Session
3:15 pm – 3:30 pm	Closing and Discussion of Next Steps
3:30 pm – 4:30 pm	Networking Session / Tour of The Wond'ry <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yesenia Sevilla, Director, Strategic Engagement and Ecosystem Development at The Wond'ry

WORKSHOP ACTIVITIES



M-TRAIN JAMBOARD

June 12th, 2024: Workshop 4

Jamboard App (Android)



Link to download
the app for Android
Devices

Jamboard App (iOS)



Link to download
the app for iOS
(Apple) devices

Link to Jamboard



Link to the projected
JamBoard

How to use Jamboard

Computers:

1. Use the JamBoard link in the latest email from M-TRAIN and navigate to JamBoard.
2. Click on the text boxes and edit with your group's ideas!

Mobile Devices:

3. Scan the QR Code to download the JamBoard app onto your device (Android or iOS).
4. Scan the QR Code for today's Jamboard (code on the right) and click the link - it will open today's JamBoard.
5. Use the "sticky note" function to contribute. On JamBoard, click "+" and select "Sticky Note".



<https://www.vanderbilt.edu/research-development-and-support/m-train/>



mtrain@vanderbilt.edu

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



Joanne Spitz, MA, CRA (Co-Chair): Joanne is the Executive Director of the Research Development and Support (RDS) team within Vanderbilt's Office of the Vice Provost for Research and Innovation. Prior to this role, she served as the Senior Director of Grant Initiatives, Corporate and Foundation Relations at Baylor University, resulting in a significant increase in Foundation and other private support for faculty researchers. Joanne also spent over 30 years in research development and pre- and post-award administration at Washington University in St. Louis in multiple departments and schools, including Neuroscience, Biology, and the Olin Business School. While at Olin, she worked for 11 years as the administrator of an interdisciplinary research network sponsored by The MacArthur Foundation. She was also instrumental in the establishment of a new grants program for the Olin School and served as its first Grant Development Manager.



Quincy Quick, PhD (Co-Chair): Quincy serves as the Associate Vice President of Research and Sponsored Programs and Chief Research Officer at Tennessee State University (TSU). As a scientist, Quincy has studied novel targets and therapeutics for the treatment of glioblastomas for the past 20 years and has been an active NIH grant reviewer, as well as reviewer and editor for several journals. Quincy has also served as a research mentor and/or coordinator on several NIH and NSF funded developmental training grant programs that include RISE, MARC, NIMH-COR, HBCU-UP, and served as the co-program director for the TSU-NERVE program, an NIH funded developmental training program to increase the number of students that earn PhDs in neuroscience. As part of these initiatives, Quincy has mentored more than 80 students at the PhD, Masters, and undergraduate levels. This service and productivity have led to Quincy being acknowledged as one of the most inspiring black scientists in the US by Cell Mentor. Furthermore, in his role as AVP of Research and Sponsored Programs, Quincy mentors and supports research efforts and development of faculty at all levels.



Sajid Hussain, PhD (Co-Chair): Sajid Hussain is Associate Provost for Research and the Director of the Office of Sponsored Research and Programs (OSP) at Fisk University. In 2009, he joined Fisk University as an Associate Professor in the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science. Prior to Fisk, he worked as Associate Professor and Assistant Professor in the Jodrey School of Computer Science, Acadia University, Canada, 2005-09. He received a Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering from the University of Manitoba, Canada, in 2004. Sajid is interested in applying machine learning to projects related to healthcare, bioinformatics, digital humanities, and criminal justice. He is also interested in energy-efficient communication protocols and security techniques for mobile, ubiquitous, and pervasive applications.



Donna Ingles, MS, MPH (Organizing Committee Member): Donna currently serves as Director of Operations for the Center for Technology Transfer and Commercialization at Vanderbilt University. Prior to this, she served as Associate Director of Research Development and has nearly 20 years of grant development experience across pre- and post-award support and research project management. Donna is the former Assistant Director of Operations for the Vanderbilt Institute for Global Health, where she focused on optimization of pre- and post-award processes, project development, and implementation, as well as research capacity-building in low- and middle-income countries. She previously worked at Moffitt Cancer Center, in Drug Discovery and then in Epidemiology, culminating in a senior position within the Center for Immunization and Infection Research in Cancer.



Phil Ko, PhD (Organizing Committee Member): Phil is an Associate Director of Research Development on Vanderbilt's RDS team. He has a research background in cognitive neuroscience and has held faculty positions at Vanderbilt and Austin Peay State University. Following his scientific career, he pivoted to science policy and research administration, serving the National Science Foundation (NSF) as a Science and Technology Policy Fellow with the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS). At NSF, he developed communications and analytics with the National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics (NCSES). Phil also served as a Science Officer for the Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs within the Department of Defense.



Phyllis Danner, EdD, CRA (Organizing Committee Member): Phyllis is Executive Director of Research and Sponsored Programs at TSU, providing daily leadership, supervision, and administration of the division. She is responsible for pre-award and non-financial post-award administration for proposals and awards of federal, state, private, foundation, and local agencies. She is the project manager of all external information systems, e.g., Research.gov, Grants.gov, NIH Commons, etc. She is also responsible for assisting in garnering over \$100 million in funding awards during the 2023 fiscal year, conducts university-wide training and leadership concerning compliance and budget development, and is an adjunct professor at TSU.



Sufyan Baksh, PhD, MBA (Co-Investigator): Sufyan is the Executive Director of Innovation and Distinguished Professor of Business in the Department of Business Administration at Fisk University. He received a PhD in integrated marketing communication and advanced research methods from Texas Tech University and completed a post-doctorate at the University of Florida. He has an MBA in entrepreneurship and international business from RIT, an MBA/MMS in marketing from RIMSIR, and a BA in Economics and Commerce from Jai Hind College (Bombay, India). He is a board member of Wahed Invest Inc. and worked for LINOpinion PR (Mumbai, India) for four years. His research in marketing, communication, digital transformation, etc. is published

in several internationally renowned peer reviewed journals and has been presented at leading national and international conferences.



Lena Winfree (Co-Investigator): Lena Winfree is the inaugural John Lewis Center Fellow for Tech/Data Science at Fisk University. Lena is the co-founder of Rachel + Winfree Consulting, a data analytics consulting firm that provides data strategy and analytics solutions to small and mid-sized businesses. Lena is also Vice President and co-organizer of the Nashville chapter of the Blacks In Technology Foundation. In this role, she has been responsible for launching social justice initiatives (including equitable workforce development) that increase digital equity and literacy for historically excluded minorities. Lena also launched LocalTek-Thrive, a technology education initiative in partnership with Dell Technologies that aims to diversify the tech talent pipeline by providing Nashville high school students with opportunities to receive hands-on tech education, college credit, and industry certifications that prepare them to join Nashville's rapidly growing tech workforce. This initiative currently serves over 150 students in the MNPS school district, with over 90 percent being minorities. In addition to her business and non-profit work, Lena is an active part of the Nashville tech community. Lena dedicates her time by serving on the Women in Technology Tennessee (WiTT), the Nashville Technology Council (NTC) executive board, and the Nashville Technology Council's Education Committee. Lena has also served on the steering committee for the Nashville Analytics Summit for the past two years. Lena was awarded the "Women of Influence" (2023) for the greater Nashville area.

SPEAKERS



Padma Raghavan (Vanderbilt University): Padma Raghavan serves as the Vice Provost for Research and Innovation and holds the title of Distinguished Professor of Computer Science at Vanderbilt University. She is instrumental in shaping the university's research landscape, overseeing a broad range of initiatives from technology transfer to long-term strategic partnerships with industry and government. Notable collaborations include Ancora Innovation with Deerfield Management and the Pathfinder project with the U.S. Army. Prior to Vanderbilt, she made significant contributions at Penn State, where she was the Associate Vice President for Research and the founding Director of the Institute for Computational and Data Sciences.



Dina Stroud (National Science Foundation): Dina Myers Stroud is the Lead Program Director for the National Science Foundation (NSF) Growing Research Access for Nationally Transformative Equity and Diversity (GRANTED). She joins the NSF from Vanderbilt and Fisk Universities. She most recently served as Executive Director of the Fisk-Vanderbilt Master's to PhD Bridge Program and Director the Fisk-Vanderbilt NSF Center of Excellence in Broadening Participation. Her career has been focused on understanding and building relationships, be they molecular, genetic, personal, or institutional.



Lindsey Cox (LaunchTN): Lindsey Cox is the CEO of Launch Tennessee (LaunchTN), a 501c3, public-private partnership, empowering Tennessee's most promising entrepreneurs with capital, connection, and commercialization opportunities. Cox spent six years at LaunchTN before rejoining the organization as CEO in July 2022. She previously worked at the Office of Innovation and Entrepreneurship at the United States Economic Development Administration (EDA) - a bureau of the Department of Commerce, where she led the restructuring of a \$225 million federal grant program supporting tech-based economic development initiatives, and went on to lead The Company Lab (CO.LAB), a regional entrepreneur center in Chattanooga, TN.



Charles Layne (LaunchTN): Charles Layne currently serves as the Technology Advancement Manager at LaunchTN, where he works to facilitate the commercialization of technologies across the state of TN in addition to striving to improve the TN innovation ecosystem through policy, advocacy, and development efforts. These efforts include the development of the Tennessee Technology Advancement Consortium, a pilot project to create a statewide technology transfer and commercialization support office to increase resources available to participating universities. Chuck previously worked in Nashville and Memphis on housing, transportation, and public infrastructure projects. He holds a bachelor's degree in community development and a Master of City and Regional Planning from the University of Memphis.



Jennifer Skjellum (LaunchTN): Jennifer Skjellum is the University Advisor for LaunchTN's Tennessee Technology Advancement Consortium (TTAC), focused on providing access to technology transfer services, elevating the profile of university research, and increasing commercialization outcomes across the state of Tennessee. She also serves in a consulting role at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga as a commercialization counselor, working with faculty and graduate students to advance research commercialization in collaboration with the UT Research Foundation. She is also co-founder and President of Runtime Computing Solutions, a software and services company that serves the defense systems and high-performance computing sectors.

ATTENDEES



Febbie Dickerson (American Baptist College): Dr. Febbie C. Dickerson, Vice President of Academic and Student Affairs at American Baptist College in Nashville, TN, holds B.A. degrees in Journalism and Biblical Education from the University of Georgia and Beulah Heights University, a Master of Divinity and a Master of Arts both from Vanderbilt University, and a Ph.D. in New Testament also from Vanderbilt University. Her research interests include the Gospel of Luke and the depiction of women in Luke-Acts, the Special Lukan material, as well as economic issues in the New Testament such as labor, debt, wage, poverty, philanthropy and patronage. She is the author of *Luke, Widows, Judges, and Stereotypes*.



Chad Brooks (Austin Peay State University): Chad Brooks is the Vice Provost of Research at Austin Peay State University. He is responsible for coordinating all of the administrative duties for Research, Grants and Sponsored Programs, International Education, the Center for Workforce Development, and the College of Graduate Studies. He is also responsible for establishing the policies and procedures that govern these areas. Chad chairs the Graduate and Research Council, facilitates the Institutional Review Board, and coordinates Graduate Faculty approvals and the Graduate Student Appeals Process. Chad also represents APSU's College of Graduate Studies at THEC and several other professional organizations. He is also an active faculty member on campus. He is passionate about foster care and working in the community.



Sharana Jones (Austin Peay State University): Sharana Jones is the Grants Specialist for Austin Peay State University in the College of STEM. She has worked in the Research Administration field for over 20 years in the Healthcare and Higher Education industry, working with federal, foundation and private grants supporting underserved, youth, and community-based initiatives. She received her Bachelor's degree from Ferris State University and is working on her Master's in Community Leadership at APSU and her Certified Research Administrator certification. She is an active member of the APSU Black Faculty and Staff Association and the National Council of University Research Administrators.



Kelly Pitts (Austin Peay State University): Kelly Pitts is the current Assistant Director of Grants at Austin Peay State University. She has a Master's in Corporate Communications and has been working in Grants Administration since 2017. She is also an adjunct professor in the Department of Communication and has been at Austin Peay State University since 2012. She has a wealth of knowledge of the campus and the community. She is an active member of NCURA, board member of the university Staff Senate Committee, and volunteers as a board member with Bella's Closet, a local non-profit in Clarksville, as their grant manager.



Brenda Gill (Belmont University): Brenda Gill is the Grants Administrator at the Office of Sponsored Programs at Belmont University. She holds a BSN from D'Youville College, an MS in Exercise and Nutrition Science from Lipscomb University and is currently pursuing a Doctor of Public Health (DrPH) at Walden University, which she is expected to complete in 2025. Brenda's extensive experience in leadership includes operational, strategic, and clinical roles at Allstate Insurance and Onlife Health respectively. In her current role, Brenda oversees pre-award activities, grant research, and submission processes to position faculty for successful grant funding.



Jai Starling (Belmont University): Jai Starling is the Finance Administrator at the Office of Sponsored Programs. She holds an MBA from Trevecca Nazarene University and recently graduated from Meharry Medical College with a Master of Science in Data Science (May 2024). Her capstone project, "Unraveling the Complexities of Employee Retention: A Comparative Analysis of Logistic Regression and Random Forest Models," highlights her research and analytical acumen. She previously served as Director of Communications at the Tennessee Human Rights Commission and as Grants Manager at the Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development. Jai's diverse roles showcase her expertise in finance, communication, and grants management. In her current role, she oversees the monitoring of awarded funds compliance, ensuring efficient financial operations.



Ellen Zinkiewicz (Belmont University): Ellen is the Director of Belmont University's inaugural Office of Sponsored Programs and responsible for scaling administration, compliance, and customer support for the University-wide push to increase grant funding. Prior to coming to Belmont, she directed Nashville's youth employment programs including creating and leading the city's first full scale, city-funded youth employment initiative, Opportunity NOW. Ellen is a social worker with an MSSW from University of Tennessee's College of Social Work. She has an undergraduate degree from University of Evansville and was a Fulbright in Debrecen, Hungary. In her spare time, she likes to garden. She has an undergraduate degree from University of Evansville and was a Fulbright in Debrecen, Hungary.



Saumya Ramanathan (Fisk University): Saumya Ramanathan is a biochemist and cancer biologist by training. She runs an NSF funded research program at Fisk University.



Robyn Saakian (Lipscomb University): Robyn Saakian is the director of the Office of Research and Grants at Lipscomb University. She has led Lipscomb to attain public and private grants for academics and research for the past twelve years. In her role in the Office of Research and Grants, Saakian manages institutional oversight of the entire life of the grant cycle, from proposal development to grant management and compliance. Prior to joining Lipscomb, Saakian spent more than a dozen years in Washington, D.C., overseeing international development-related grant programs for two national nonprofit organizations.



Nolan Hatley (Middle Tennessee State University): A. "Nolan" Hatley is the Research Compliance Officer at Middle Tennessee State University. His academic and professional training is in philosophy, in which he earned his Ph.D. at the University of Tennessee in 2016. He has enjoyed transferring his analytical skills from this background to research compliance, especially with IRB protocol reviews.



Keith Palmer (Middle Tennessee State University): Keith Palmer is an award management specialist at Middle Tennessee State University. His role primarily focuses on the pre-award aspect of grants. Keith holds a Bachelor's degree in Communication from MTSU. Keith's current position in the Office of Research is his second time working at MTSU. He previously held Advancement and Development positions at MTSU, Tennessee Tech University and The University of Tennessee Chattanooga. His passion is listening to all types of music, but primarily jazz and classic R&B. One of his favorite past jobs was being an announcer for several Nashville area radio stations.



John Sousa (Middle Tennessee State University): John is an Award Management Specialist at MTSU. He performs both pre- and post-award roles. John has an MFA in Writing from the University of San Francisco.



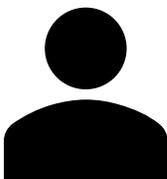
Michelle Willard (Middle Tennessee State University): Grant hunter. Master's candidate. Former reporter. Recovering archaeologist. General nerd.



Kandace Harris (Pinnacle Bank): Kandace Harris proudly serves on Pinnacle Bank's community development team as VP, client service advisor. Kandace assists with identifying goals and creating a financial plan in alignment with set targets. Kandace was recognized for her impact by the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation as Nashville's Top 30 Under 30 Young Professionals. She earned a Master of Business Administration degree from Lipscomb University and a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from Fisk University.



Jessica Barkley (Tennessee State University): Jessica Barkley is a certified corporate and small business manager with over 10 years of experience. In her role as Electronic Records Manager at Tennessee State University, he helps principal investigators gain clarity, set realistic goals, and develop actionable plans to overcome spending obstacles and achieve success.



Corinne Vaughn (Tennessee State University): Corrine Vaughn is the Director for Research Management at Tennessee State University. She has been with TSU for 21 years and has worked as a director in the Research and Sponsored Programs Division for the past fifteen years.



Neal Hunt (Tennessee Technological University): Neal Hunt has worked in sponsored programs since 1996, beginning at a small quasi-state agency focused on water supply and conservation. In his career he has worked at non-profit, for profit and state institutions. After working at Vanderbilt University Medical Center for 18 years as a Contracts Team Lead and as Department Manager, Neal joined Tennessee Technological University in 2022 as Director of Sponsored Programs.



Edmund McFadden (Trevecca Nazarene University): Edmund McFadden is a healthcare professional and professor. His experiences include technology, operations, and enterprise program management in multi-site healthcare organizations. Teaching, consulting, and research on value-based care, operational excellence, and acquisition integration.



Janice Lovell (Trevecca Nazarene University): Janice Lovell is Director of Grants and Foundation Relations at Trevecca Nazarene University. Janice is currently in the tenth year of leadership at Trevecca Nazarene University, her alma mater. She spent over 25 years in the Center of Excellence for Learning Sciences at TSU working with federally funded higher education degree pathways for early childhood teachers. Janice hosts Grants Academy sessions for AmeriCorps VISTA members from the campus and conducts Responsible Conduct in Research training. She is a member and frequent mentor for the Grant Professional Association of middle Tennessee.



Cara Ince (Vanderbilt University): Nashville native and Vanderbilt alum, Cara Ince, specializes in enhancing research and innovation collaborations between Vanderbilt and public sector leaders. Ince coordinates with key university units to identify and advance projects that align with government priorities and address community needs. Prior roles include serving as director of federal grants for Congressman Jim Cooper, Tennessee State Parks partnership director, and director of community relations at Conexión Américas. Her work focuses on creating synergies to benefit Nashville and Tennessee communities.