

Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative

CITI Newsletter



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Welcome to the CITI Newsletter

This newsletter updates you on CITI Program use data and updates on the Responsible Conduct of Research and Laboratory Animal Welfare Research courses. It also provides you an overview of the progress taking place in the international arena.

CITI Data Confirms Success of Outreach and Growth

The number of organizations and institutions using CITI to educate investigators and key research personnel is growing at a phenomenal rate. In 2007, CITI added over 200 new participating institutions and organizations. Now, over 860 institutions and organizations world wide use the CITI Program to augment their ethics education programs. 36 international organizations and institutions include CITI as part of their ethics education programs.

In 2007, 262,000 CITI courses were completed by over 260,244 new learners for an average of over 20,000 new course completions per month. Overall, more than 800,000 people have completed a CITI course since the program opened in September of 2000. January 2008 was a record usage month with 37,323 people completing a CITI course. It is likely that CITI will issue its 1,000,000th Course Completion Report sometime in mid 2008

Human Subjects Protection Education - Biomedical Research and Social and Behavioral Research Refresher Courses for Continuing Education

In response to those organizations that require ongoing instruction in human subjects protection beyond the Basic Course, CITI offers a suite of refresher course modules. There are two designated levels of refresher courses. 101 designates course content that simply summarizes important concepts presented in the Basic Course, while, a 201 designation indicates that the course is case/vignette based. Completing refresher courses will require less than two hours.

Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR) Program

More organizations are, requiring students; staff and faculty take RCR training so they will be better equipped to deal with the ethical questions and issues they face as members of the research community. CITI has been a leader in providing high-quality, interactive educational materials and curriculum in the area of RCR. The RCR Program provides links to resource materials and case studies for learners conducting research in the biomedical, social and behavioral and physical sciences as well as for those conducting research in the humanities.

Dr. Dan Vasgird at the University of Nebraska – Lincoln (UN-L) provided three three-minute video vignettes for the CITI RCR course. These superb videos feature UN-L student actors, addressing issues of Research Misconduct, Conflict of Interest and Commitment, and Responsible Authorship. These videos have been incorporated in their respective CITI RCR modules. Four additional video vignettes are being planned for fall 2008.

Based on the course site usage shown below, the CITI RCR Program is an unqualified success. Nearly 6,800 learners have completed an RCR Course at the CITI Web site in the past 11 months. Biomedical and Social and Behavioral learners account for more than 72% of all completed courses.

CITI RCR Course Site Usage from 2/1/07 to 1/1/08			
	Registrants	Completed Courses	Rate
Public Access	7,613	2,589	34%
Member Institutions (81)	10,364	4,187	40%
Total	17,977	6,776	38%

If you would like to setup the CITI RCR Course for your organization, please contact the CITI Help desk at citisupport@med.miami.edu or at 305 243-7970. Additionally there will be a CITI booth at the 2008 PRIM&R meeting in March.

Laboratory Animal Welfare Course

The CITI Laboratory Animal Welfare Course meets the federal requirements for basic training in the humane care and use of animals in research and teaching as required by both the United States Department of Agriculture and Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare.

The CITI Laboratory Animal Welfare Course offers an introductory course on working with the IACUC and an additional course for IACUC members. As with other CITI offerings, the Courses are customizable to the intended audience based learning goals. Completion reports are sent to both the individual who completes the course as well as designated site personnel.

The Laboratory Animal Welfare Course opened in June 2007. In just 7 months over 3800 learners from over 160 CITI Member organizations have completed over 9697 Lab

Animal Courses. Learners from non-VA member institutions completed over 5300 courses since the Lab animal program was rolled out in June 2007.

Organizations subscribing to the Laboratory Animal Welfare Course will have access to all other CITI educational materials at no additional cost.

If your institution would like to subscribe to the CITI Lab Animal Welfare Course please call CITI at 305 243-7970 or e-mail citisupport@med.miami.edu.

GCP Course Now Available in Spanish and Portuguese

Thanks to generous support from the HIV/AIDS Coordination Network (HANC) <http://www.studysource.org/> and the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), the CITI GCP Course is also now available in Spanish and Portuguese.

Additional Language Capabilities

Additional language capabilities (French, Chinese, Japanese, and Russian) are planned for 2008. If you wish to set up a Spanish or Portuguese curriculum for your learners contact the CITI Office or check out the Announcements and FAQ page at www.citiprogram.org

Collaborating with Latin America

The CITI program now features over 50 modules in Spanish and more than 20 modules in Portuguese. Many of these modules were developed by Drs. Fernando Lolas and Eduardo Rodriguez at the University of Chile for the international audience. Three new non-U.S. centric modules, developed by Dr. Henry Silverman and his Fogarty International Fellows, have also been translated to Spanish and Portuguese for the Latin America audience. The newly revamped CITI Home Page features Spanish and Portuguese language options for learners in Latin America and Brazil.

West African Bioethics Program Activities

Awareness of research ethics in West Africa has been enhanced by the CITI training programs. **Clement A. Adebamowo**, **BM ChB Hons, FWACS, FACS, ScD** at the University Of Ibadan, Nigeria tells us that the CITI training has been very useful and more than 100 learners have completed CITI course work.

The University of Ibadan uses CITI modules in its Masters in Bioethics program for biomedical researchers and diploma students in the Bioethics course and as training for its ethics committees in greater Nigeria.

West African Bioethics: <http://www.westafricanbioethics.net/wabcms/>

Additional Outreach Activities - Africa

Thanks largely to **Dr. Ifeoma Okoye**, the CITI Program is becoming more well known throughout Africa. Although her primary focus is in Nigeria, she also shares information about the use of CITI throughout Africa. CITI is featured by the Association for Good Clinical Practice Nigeria (AGCPN) founded by Dr. Akoye and available at

www.agcpcn.org/ Despite challenges, Dr. Okoye is beginning to see the fruit of her labors Dr. Okoye shared with us," we have been concentrating on effective sowing; the harvest season is certainly imminent."

Ask the Founders: Your chance to ask what you've wanted to know about CITI:

Who works in the CITI office, and what do they do?

CITI Office Personnel:

- **Adiper Santos** handles all questions regarding subscriptions and semi annual meeting arrangements. Email Ady at asantos2@med.miami.edu.
- **Regina Smith** is responsible for helping learners with their login and browser problems.
- **Marcos Souza** supervises the CITI help desk and helps institutions with special programming needs. Marcos is also one of our Portuguese language editors. IT and institutional setup issues can be sent to Marcos at msouza@med.miami.edu.
- **Dee Joseph** is a help desk technician with the CITI Program. She is responsible for implementing institutional set-ups and for trouble shooting problems that users may having using the course site.
- **Dharam Persaud-Sharma** provides technical support for the CITI help desk. He is a valued addition to our international team as he is fluent in Hindi and Spanish.
- **Sergio Litewka MD** is the CITI Latin America Program coordinator and is responsible for helping Latin American institutions and organizations expand the outreach capabilities of the CITI Program. Dr. Litewka is also one of our Spanish language editors. For information related to CITI's programs in Latin America and Brazil, contact Dr. Litewka at slitewka@med.miami.edu .

What is the CITI Developers' Group?

The **CITI Developers' Group** that includes more that 50 volunteer bioethics experts from around the world who meet semi-annually to review user feedback, implement changes to content, and plan new initiatives.

The names of participants in the CITI Developer Group may be accessed at <https://www.citiprogram.org/dev/announcementview.asp?language=english&announcement=43>

What is the Executive Advisory Committee?

The **Executive Advisory Committee (EAC)** is a selected group of developers who provide the Co-Founders advice and counsel on budgetary and policy issues. More information about the EAC members may be accessed at:

<https://www.citiprogram.org/dev/announcementview.asp?language=english&announcement=43>.

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