

OPTI-West Research Bulletin

Volume 1, Issue 1

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Greetings OPTI-West Research Community!

This *OPTI-West Research Bulletin* is the first of what your OPTI-West Research Committee is launching as a regular means of communicating with all partner programs. Our hope is to issue these bulletins on approximately a monthly basis to inform everyone of what is happening within OPTI-West research. Bulletins will include valuable resources for our investigators, news of upcoming conferences, tips on starting projects, and opportunities for OMM, clinical, bench, and educational research.

The OPTI-West Research Committee and its three dynamic work groups met last Tuesday, February 27th, for an afternoon of determining strategic objectives for the remainder of 2007. While there are many worthwhile goals we could pursue, the committee decided on four objectives that are truly "strategic." These goals are:

- Planning and conducting a "First Annual OPTI-West Research Conference" for faculty and residents for research skill building.
- Establishing an OPTI-West Research Database containing lists of projects and investigators, resident and faculty published papers, and a catalog of faculty (and others) willing to serve as research mentors and technical advisors.
- Establishing a regular *OPTI-West Research Bulletin* (witness the immediate move toward fulfilling this objective!).
- Establishing an OPTI-West Research Coordinator position. This person would be in charge of maintaining the database, being the focal point for research activity, and assuring smooth communication within our system. This will be especially important as we complete our registration as a recognized Practice-Based Research Network (PBRN).

Along with this month's *Research Bulletin* are three important attachments:

- AOA call for research papers for the October 2007 meetings;
- AOA requirements for abstracts;
- February 2007 Newsletter of the North American Primary Care Research Group (NAPCRG) - Important note: NAPCRG is a great organization for anyone wishing to do practice-based research. Membership materials were made available to all programs at the OPTI-West Research Committee meeting. If you are interested, please see your DME for a brochure and membership information.

If you have information to include in future bulletins, please contact Dr. Bill Cairney at (719) 648-3652 or wcairney@westernu.edu.

For the Research Committee:

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