

# Strengthening the Biomedical Research Workforce

## *New Directions in Training*

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PTX Annual Fall Symposium, Pharm T32  
Annual Retreat and NIEHS T32 Retreat  
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# Overview

- ❖ BEST Initiative
- ❖ FUTURE Program
- ❖ CETI Program
- ❖ Sustainability Plan

# NIH BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH WORKFORCE REPORT

June 14, 2012

## Findings

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- Only 26% of biomedical PhDs are employed in tenured or tenured-track positions
- Proportion of biomedical PhDs employed in industry and government has remained relatively constant
- Categories that have seen growth are:
  - science-related occupations that do not involve the conduct of research
  - occupations that do not require graduate training in science

*Yet..... graduate training continues to be aimed almost exclusively at preparing people for academic research careers*

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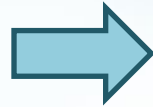
## Recommendations

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- Graduate programs must accommodate a greater range of anticipated careers for students
- Graduate programs should reflect that range and offer opportunities for students to explore a variety of options while in graduate school, without adding to the length of training
- NIH should support programs that enrich and diversify postdoctoral training and partner with other entities (industry, private foundations, government, etc.) to broaden exposure to multiple career paths

## Broadening Experiences in Scientific Training (BEST)

**Challenge:**  
the academic  
career choice  
is becoming  
less attractive  
and/or less  
feasible for  
many PhDs



**Opportunity:**  
“Strengthening  
the Biomedical  
Research  
Workforce”



**BEST  
awards**



**Goal:** develop innovative  
approaches complementing  
traditional research training  
in biomedical sciences

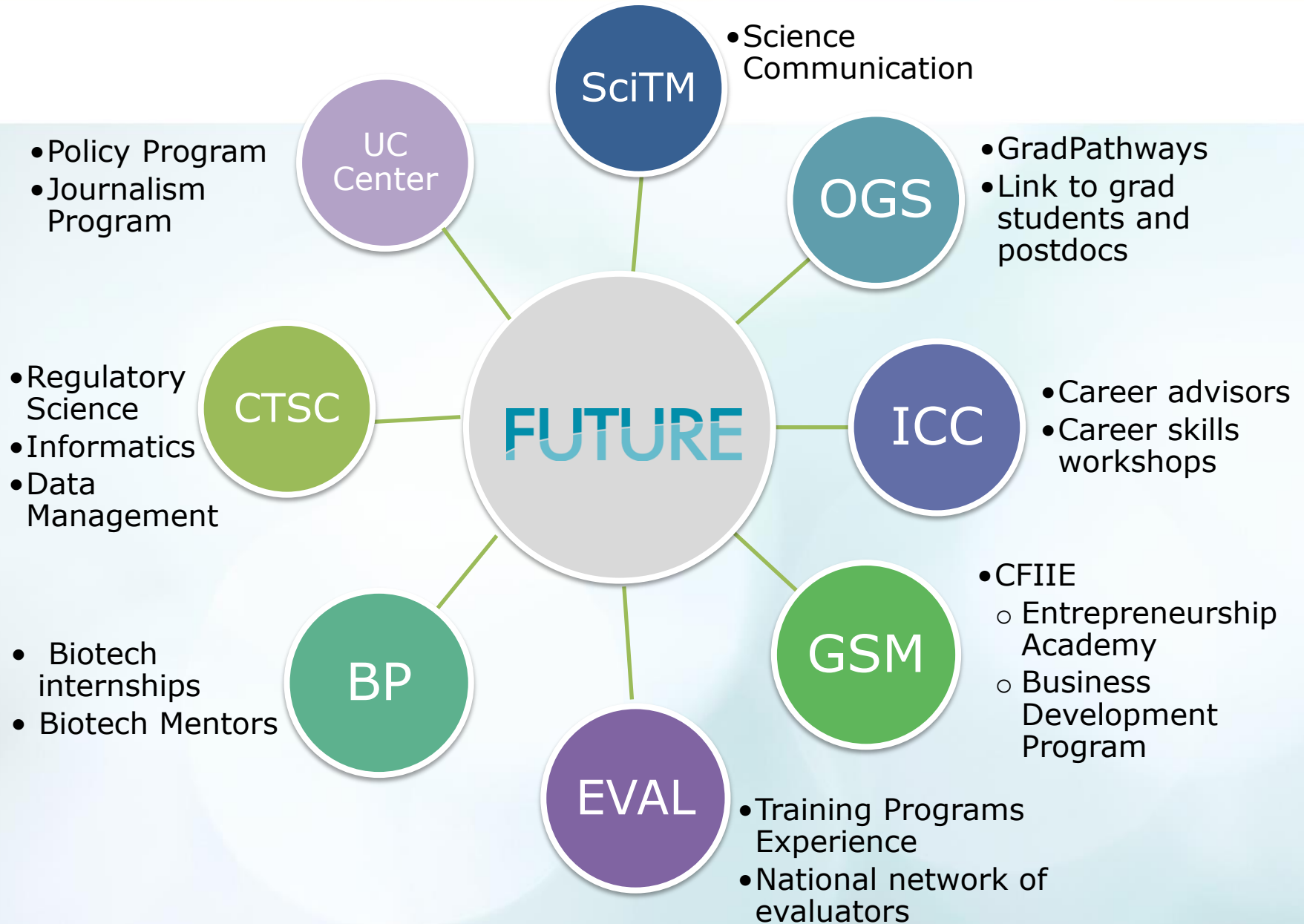
# BEST Initiative Goals

- ❖ Better prepare graduate students and postdocs for the variety of career opportunities available to them
- ❖ Establish an awardee network to evaluate different approaches, and disseminate results

## Inaugural BEST Awards

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- **UC Davis (F. Meyers, L. Berglund, A. Hargadon)**
- UCSF
- Univ. of CO, Denver
- NYU
- Vanderbilt
- Cornell
- UMass Medical School
- Emory
- Virginia Tech
- Wayne State



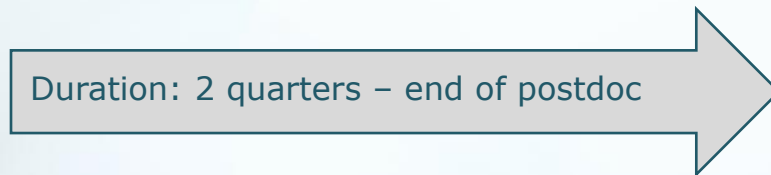
# FUTURE

## Career Exploration for Biomedical Scientists

### FUTURE Certificate Track:



### FUTURE Self-Directed Track:



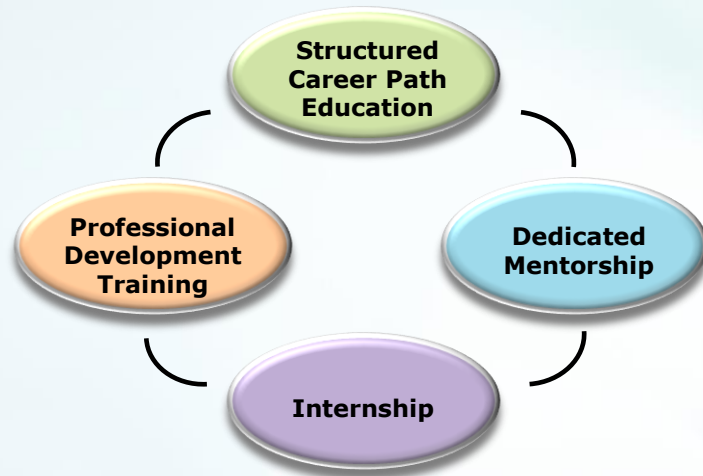
**Launching  
January 2015!**

Contact: [jennifer.greenier@ucdmc.ucdavis.edu](mailto:jennifer.greenier@ucdmc.ucdavis.edu)

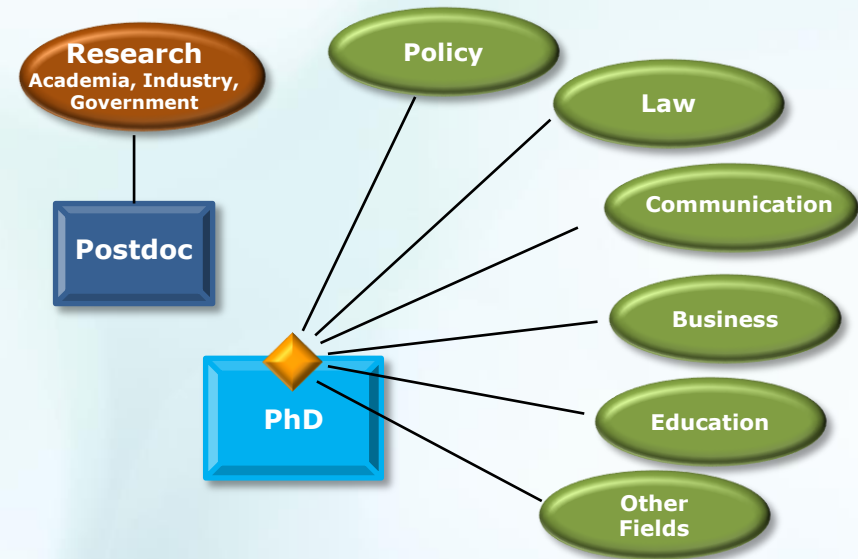




CAREER EXPLORATION THROUGH INTERNSHIPS  
*for UC Davis Graduate Students*



### CETI Core Program Components



◆ Career Decision Point

**Goal:** students make career choices by the end of graduate school, not at the end of postdoctoral training

**Next Cohort  
January 2015!**

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# Early Outcomes from a Key Partnership

- Partnered with grad student focused CETI (Career Exploration Through Internships) program) to establish a parallel program for FUTURE postdocs
- Co-developed a career exploration website that integrates all opportunities across campus and will reside on the Grad Studies umbrella website
- Established a viable sustainability plan for FUTURE



# Sustainability Plan

FUTURE and CETI will merge into one program that serves both graduate students and postdocs under the Office of Graduate Studies

