

Rutgers Center for Tobacco Studies

Membership Policy & Procedure

Introduction

In the spirit of promoting collaboration, membership is open to all faculty of Rutgers; faculty from other institutions; and professionals within and outside of Rutgers who are committed to the vision, mission, and values of the Rutgers Center for Tobacco Studies (CTS). Membership connotes a commitment to participate in interdisciplinary research, education, and service, as well as to a value system that embraces diversity, equity and inclusion.

All members will be part of a growing community that provides opportunity for learning, networking, and collaboration among experts, partners, and communities.

Globally, tobacco caused diseases kill 1 in 10 adults and such deaths are projected to exceed 8 million annually by 2030. Tobacco use disproportionately impacts vulnerable populations. Domestically, high cigarette smoking rates persist among individuals who are economically disadvantaged, racial and ethnic minorities, sexual and gender minorities, and those with mental health and substance use disorders. Globally, the tobacco industry aggressively targets women and youth in low and middle income countries to replace “lost revenue” from declining smoking rates in developed countries. Reducing the health burden from tobacco products requires a multi-disciplinary approach in research, treatment, training, service, and policy change. Accordingly, **the mission of the CTS is to reduce and ultimately eliminate, tobacco-related morbidity and mortality in New Jersey, the US, and globally.**

We seek to do this via four goals:

- 1) research that informs interventions, regulations and policies;
- 2) the delivery of evidence-based tobacco treatment;
- 3) dissemination of research findings to key stakeholders; and
- 4) training of tobacco treatment providers and the next generation of tobacco researchers.

Application for membership is voluntary and also connotes agreement by the applicant with CTS’s membership goals and objectives.

Membership Committee

A subcommittee of CTS leadership serves as the membership committee. The membership committee is comprised of the following individuals:

- Cristine Delnevo, PhD, MPH, Director
- Mary Hrywna, PhD, MPH, Associate Director
- Michael Steinberg, MD, MPH, Medical Director
- Paul Novembre, MA, Director of Administration

Types of Membership:

1. <i>Core Member</i>	Resident CTS faculty. Exceptions can be made for non-resident faculty serving in a leadership role at CTS or other key CTS function.
2. <i>Associate Member</i>	Non-resident faculty or emeritus faculty with academic appointment at Rutgers University.
3. <i>Affiliate Member</i>	Faculty at other academic institutions who hold investigator roles on CTS grants or scholars who work at the CTS for a pre-determined period of time (e.g., during sabbatical)
4. <i>Trainee Member</i>	Mentored Rutgers doctoral student or post-docs; must be sponsored by a Core or Associate Member.

Membership Review

Applications will be reviewed by the membership committee. Membership review will occur at three points: 1) initial appointment membership review/onboarding; 2) renewal (annually); and 3) off-boarding.

Review Criteria

1) initial appointment membership review/onboarding will consider:

- Past and/or current grant funding in the area of tobacco related research (conflicts of interest will be taken into consideration)
- publications of tobacco related research in peer reviewed journals
- demonstrated collaboration with other members of CTS or interest in collaborating

It is not mandatory for acceptance of initial membership application to meet all criteria; reasonable criteria are based on the nature of the application and determined by the Membership Committee.

2) renewal (annually):

- regular participation in CTS research meetings and activities (e.g. Works in Progress, Reviews of Pilot Grants); service on CTS committees (e.g. faculty search committee)
- participation in CTS continuing educational activities
- active grant funding in the area of tobacco related research
- dissemination of tobacco related research in peer reviewed journals and/or national conferences
- active collaboration with other CTS members

It is not mandatory for renewal of membership to meet all criteria; reasonable criteria are determined by the Membership Committee.

CTS Member Benefits by Membership Type

Core Member

- Inclusion of member's research project(s) highlights on CTS website and in annual report
- Receipts of CTS calendar of events, newsletters, programs, seminar announcements as well as faculty development activities
- Support letter for university, regional and national awards competitions
- Space provided by CTS
- Administrative and research support, including pre and post award, provided by CTS
- Input into key strategic initiatives and programs at CTS
- Access to philanthropic outreach with CTS development support
- Priority for CTS seed/pilot funding
- Priority for faculty course buy-out program
- Priority for bridge funding program
- Priority for assistance from the survey methods data analysis core
- Eligible for discretionary funding (publication costs, Journal fee, travel, dues, etc)
- Eligible for grantsmanship support (e.g., works-in-progress, grant writing workshops)
- Eligible for shared CTS post-doctoral and predoctoral trainees

Associate Member

- Inclusion of member's research project(s) highlights on CTS website and in annual report
- Receipts of CTS calendar of events, newsletters, programs, seminar announcements as well as faculty development activities
- Support letter for university, regional and national awards competitions
- Shared workspace at CTS if needed
- Eligible for CTS seed/pilot funding
- Eligible for faculty course buy-out program
- Eligible for bridge funding program
- Eligible for assistance from the survey methods data analysis core
- Eligible for grantsmanship support (e.g., works-in-progress, grant writing workshops)

Affiliate Member

- Inclusion of member's research project(s) highlights on CTS website and in annual report
- Receipts of CTS calendar of events, newsletters, programs, seminar announcements as well as faculty development activities
- Support letter for university, regional and national awards competitions
- Shared workspace at CTS if needed
- Support letter for tenure and promotion (if needed)
- Facilitate requests for adjunct appointments as appropriate

Trainee Member

- Inclusion of member's research project(s) highlights on CTS website and in annual report
- Receipts of CTS calendar of events, newsletters, programs, seminar announcements as well as faculty development activities
- Support letter for university, regional and national awards competitions
- Shared workspace at CTS if needed
- Eligible for CTS seed/pilot funding
- Eligible for grantsmanship support (e.g., works-in-progress, grant writing workshops)

Memberships applications can be requested from Paul Novembre novembre@cts.rutgers.edu