

History of the Greater Salt Lake City Chapter of ACRP

The first planning meeting to organize the Salt Lake City Chapter of ACRP was held November 25, 2002. Founding members and officers were:

2003	Maureen Brinkman	President
	Jeri Burr	President-Elect
	Robin Gowers	Secretary
	Annette Breen	Treasurer

The Greater Salt Lake Chapter of the Association of Clinical Research Professionals was officially incorporated in the state of Utah on 16 January 2003 after months of work by a dedicated group of volunteers. Funding for the initial setup of the chapter (\$500) was obtained by Jeri through her department at the University of Utah for half of the cost and the other half by Annette through her company, Scirex. Robin prepared the initial paperwork with the assistance of an attorney. During the early years of the chapter, it accomplished all the requirements for chapters as specified in the ACRP Chapter Handbook, no easy task for such a small group.

Unlike our colleagues on either coast, western states are more sparsely populated and members often must travel long distances to attend meetings. There are no local chapters of ACRP in Idaho, Wyoming or Nevada, states with borders adjacent to Utah. Two other nearby states with local chapters (Phoenix, AZ and Denver, CO) are both more than 500 miles distant. Therefore, the Greater Salt Lake Chapter was founded and named with the goals of offering research professionals in adjacent states opportunities for professional interactions and networking, educational programs, CEUs and encouraging ACRP membership and certification.

During the early years of the Chapter, spring and fall meetings were held generally during the week from 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm (Business Meeting from 5:00 pm – 5:30 pm). Following is a brief summary of notable events and who has served in leadership positions.

2004	Alice Jackson	President
	Jeri Burr	President-Elect
	Robin Gowers	Secretary
	Annette Breen	Treasurer

Spring Meeting 2004 – March 3, 2004, “Clinical Research from the Industry Perspective” presented by Dr. Hunter Heath from Eli Lilly, Inc. He allowed a question and answer session afterward. One Contact hour and 1.5 Nursing CEUs were offered for the program. This meeting was held at the Moran Eye Center , Salt Lake City.

Fall Meeting 2004 – October 20, 2004, the Chapter met for a business meeting, elections for officers were held and a local FDA Representative, Ted Steinke spoke for 1.5 hours on how

clinical research sites can prepare for an FDA audit, how the auditors prepare and what they look for at the sites. This meeting was also held at the Moran Eye Center.

2005 – 2006	Jeri Burr	President
	Maureen Brinkman	President-Elect
	Christine Pyne	Secretary
	Laura Riley	Treasurer

There were 10 board meetings during the year to plan chapter events.

Spring Meeting 2005 – April 14, 2005, “The Informed Consent Process”

This meeting covered the history and essentials of informed consent (IC) as well as how to obtain informed consent in certain situations. An interactive video on IC obstacles that can occur when obtaining IC was shown. Those in attendance had a chance to ask questions and interact with the video.

During the spring 2005 Chapter Meeting, all members present voted to amend the bylaws:

- To have the officers serve for two year terms rather than one
- To have the committee chairs be voting members of the board

Fall Meeting 2005 - “How State Laws Affect Clinical Research in Utah.”

This included an interactive panel of lawyers and other experts who currently dealt with clinical trials compliance issues. This event was well attended with 45 members present and CEUs were given.

Speakers included:

- Doug Springmeyer - Assistant Attorney General
- J. Michael Dean, MD - Principal Investigator, University of Utah
- Melinda Waterman - Nurse Consultant for Durham Jones & Pinegar
- Jim Haisley - Office of General Counsel University of Utah
- Robert Payne - Office of General Counsel University of Utah
- Mary Thomason - Senior Privacy Analyst, IHC Privacy Office

Topics Covered:

1. Consenting minors in clinical research (Assent, parental permission, minors rights) – What are the requirements in Utah?
2. Clinical trial registries – implications for research and publications. Federal and state legislation that is being introduced mandating registration of clinical trials. How does this affect us locally?

3. Coordinator liability in clinical trials – (recent example cited of Clinical Study Coordinator for pediatric Rotavirus Vaccine Trial charged with fraud by the United States Department of Justice, US Attorney Michael J Sullivan, US Attorney District of Massachusetts). How liable are coordinators/PIs and is this an anomaly or trend for the future?
4. HIPAA Regulations and Site Monitors – How much can hospitals restrict? What about electronic records and remote site monitoring?

February 2006 Symposium – *“The Regulatory Umbrella: Keeping Dry When It’s Raining Rules & Risks”*

Logo designed by Maureen Brinkman



This symposium was well attended (75 attendees) with members from St. George to Idaho. Maureen Brinkman wrote and submitted a proposal for a Chapter Education Grant through the CRA Forum at the National ACRP level. This Grant was accepted and our Chapter was awarded \$500 to implement the plans for this symposium. The goal of this educational event was to attract new members, provide a research-specific educational opportunity for current members, offer CEUs for certified participants and, to create the financial security necessary to ensure our chapter’s survival. The funds would be used as treasury seed money.

Jeri Burr chaired the event as well as the finances and sponsorship committee. She contacted the following companies: Connectics, Galderma, IHC, Roche, NPS Pharmaceuticals, GSK, Barnett, and Novartis. Donations from participating sponsors netted the Chapter \$10,000 and have been the main source of funding to maintain future chapter events and keep our Chapter going.

Fall Meeting 2006 – October 2, 2006, “Patient Recruitment” from the Pharmaceutical Company and Clinical Research Site Perspective. This was offered live via WebEx from Philadelphia. Speakers included Craig Wozniak, the North American Vice President of Clinical Operations for GlaxoSmithKline who resented the pharma perspective and a second speaker was Angela Silverman, RN, MSN, CANP, who represented a clinical research site.

Maureen Brinkman (founding member of the chapter) - “Passing the torch” was particularly difficult this year as most of the founding officers were replaced.

2007 – 2008	Jean Flores	President
	Linda Griffen	President Elect
	Christine Pyne	Secretary

Laura Riley Treasurer

Summer Meeting 2007 – June 21, 2007, “Lessons Learned from FDA Inspections of the University of Utah IRB” by John Stillman, Director, University of Utah IRB

Fall Meeting 2007 – August 9, 2007, “Fraud at Investigator Sites: Tales from the Trenches and Lessons Learned” by Paul Below & Ann Marie Cisneros – independent CRAs

February 2008 Symposium – “Misconceptions in Clinical Research” (5 contact hours)

Speakers included:

- Norman Goldfarb, CRCP – “The Economics of Misconception in Clinical Research”
- Howard Mann, MD – “Therapeutic Misconceptions”
- Michael Friedrichs, MS – “Misconceptions About Patient Population”
- Bernard LaSalle, BS – “The Misconceptions About Clinical Research Data: What Data Standards Can and Cannot Do”

Fall Meeting 2008 – October 9, 2008, “Probing Indemnification in Clinical Trials” by Michael J. Miller, JD, Strong & Hanni Law Firm. This was held at the Intermountain Medical Center, Doty Family Education Center, in Murray, Utah.

2009 – 2010	Linda Griffen	President
	Jane Tuckett	President Elect
	Kristi Westfal	(died in a car accident before taking office)
	Sue Griffith	Secretary
	Brian Beames	Treasurer

Spring Meeting 2009 – May 28, 2009, “Pharmacogenomics in Chronic Disease” presented by Mark Munger, PharmD, Associate Dean, Academic Affairs, College of Pharmacy and former Chair of the University of Utah IRB.

2011	Susanne Cusick	President (6 months)
	Laurie Leshner	President Elect
	Brittan Browning	Secretary (not an ACRP member)
	Rebeca Dunn	Treasurer (not an ACRP member)

2011 - 2012	Laurie Leshner	President
	Kavitha Damal	President Elect
	Brittan Browning	Secretary (not an ACRP member)

Eric Sanders

Treasurer (not an ACRP member)

Spring Meeting 2011 – May 13, 2011, “Woman and Child Institute Spring Research Meeting” at the University of Utah. This course provided learner with information on the Coordinator : PI Relationship, Budgeting and the new Conflict of Interest reporting requirements. It was approved for three contact hours.

Fall Meeting 2011 – September 9, 2011, “Clean Data and Complex Trials: Can this Marriage be Saved?” by Jeri Burr, MS, RN-BC, CCRC, Sally Jo Zuspan, MSN, RN, Brittan Browning, MS, RD, CCRC, and Rene Enriquez, BS, all from the Data Coordinating Center, Pediatric Critical Care Division, the University of Utah. This meeting was held at the Health Science Education Building at the University of Utah. Two contact hours were provided.

Spring Meeting 2012 – May 17-18, “Personalized Health Care for Women and Children” a research conference by the University of Utah and Intermountain Health. The objectives of this conference were to build recognition and understanding of developments in personalized health care research and practice, with an emphasis on women and children’s health. The event included plenaries, breakout sessions, panel discussions, keynotes and networking. ACRP members were invited to this free conference and obtained approved contact hours for involvement. The chapter paid for a total of five contact hours for members.

2013 -2014	Kavitha Damal	President
	Julie Thelen	President-Elect
	Cynthia Jones	Secretary
	Janis Davis	Treasurer

Due in part to the impediments mentioned above, chapter activity and meeting attendance since 2007 has been stable but anemic with small numbers of participants. As of January 2014, we have 53 members and several hundred potential members. In order to maintain our Chapter in good standing with the National ACRP, we hope to revitalize our Chapter in the coming year (2014) and ask any and all interested in participation to contact the Chapter leadership with your ideas.