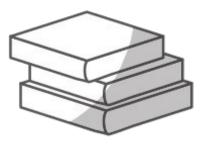# GloCal Health Fellowship Career Development Webinar Lessons Learned while Building a Research Career: From Mentors to Community Partnership

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Psychiatry and Biobehavioral Sciences UCLA
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Epidemiology
UCLA Fielding School of Public Health

Outline

Building your Research Career	Building your Mentors	Building your Research Partners

Be proactive but selective

Be Strategic

Key ingredients

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Research Background

- Research and evaluation of trauma and resilience informed care for children, families and adults
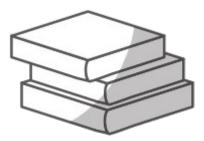
HIV Research in Asia

- Thailand - Behavioral Interventions; HIV Disclosure
- Vietnam - Health workers; HIV and drug use

DGSOM (Health Equity and Translational Social Science)

Implementation Science

Adolescent Medicine Trials Network (ATN)

- Engaging with vulnerable youth at risk/living with HIV

Training & Mentoring

- Fogarty HIV Research Training Program (Thailand, Myanmar, Vietnam, Cambodia, China)
- Fogarty GloCal Health Fellowship
- Mentoring (MS, PhD, Research Staff)
- NIMH Postdoctoral Research Training (T32) Program in the Science of Child Mental Health Treatment
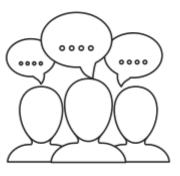- DGSOM JEDI Academic Mentoring Program

Consumer Preference

- Biomedical interventions in the U.S., Thailand, Canada, Peru, Haiti

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Building Your Research Career

Be proactive but selective
- Build your research portfolio to demonstrate expertise
- Pursue pilot projects that can lead to other projects

Consumer Preference Research using Conjoint Analysis
- HIV vaccine acceptability in the U.S., Thailand, Canada (2006, 2008, 2009, 2012)
- Willingness to participate in HIV vaccine trials in the U.S. (2006)
- Pre-exposure prophylaxis acceptability in Peru (2009)
- Willingness to test for HIV in the U.S. (2013)
- Acceptability of dual rapid point-of-care testing for syphilis and HIV in Haiti and Peru (2017, 2018)
- Acceptability of hospital directors' preference in adoption of evidence-based interventions in China (2019)
- Acceptability of long acting injectable Antiretroviral Therapy in the U.S. and Africa (2020)
- Acceptability of COVID-19 vaccine among African American and Hispanic communities in Arizona and Florida (R21 under review)

Building Your Research Career

For faculty, demonstrate your competence in three key areas
- Research (projects, publications, conferences)
- Teaching (Seminars, Courses, Mentoring)
- Service (Committees, Boards, Task Force)

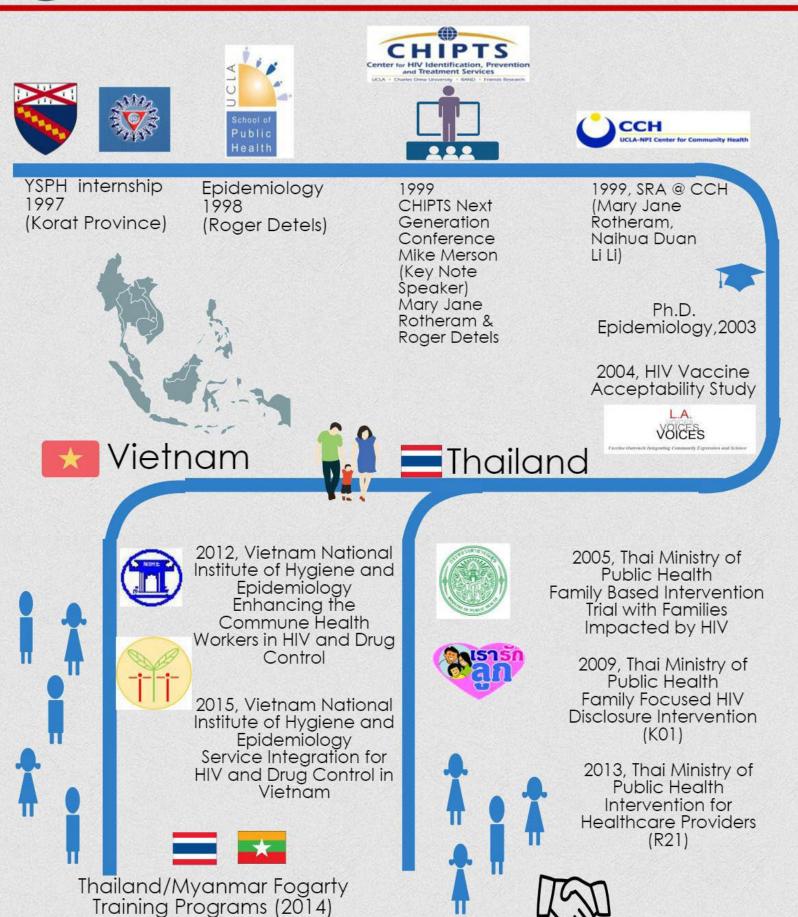| Faculty	Research	Teaching	Service
Assistant Professor-in Residence	F2F K01 Vaccine Acceptability Vietnam CHIPTS R21 D43 ATN CHIPTS	EPID 227 PH 150 NR160 Fiat Luxe Methods Seminars CHIPTS Psychiatry 176 JAM Council Program	DSMB (Addiction Medicine) AA (Psychiatry) EAB (Health Disparities) Reviewer (Grants and Journals) Task Force (Anti-Racism)
Associate Professor-in Residence			
Professor-in Residence			

Building Your Mentors

Be strategic!
(Most Mentors are incredibly giving and generous)

- Identify mentors who can address your training gaps

- Be open to learning new area/s

- Make sure it fits your research career path

Sung-Jae Lee, Ph.D.
My research path

CHIPTS
Center for HIV Identification, Prevention and Treatment Services
UCLA • Charles Drew University • RAND • Friends Research

CCH
UCLA-NPI Center for Community Health

YSPH internship 1997 (Korat Province)

Epidemiology 1998 (Roger Detels)

1999 CHIPTS Next Generation Conference Mike Merson (Key Note Speaker) Mary Jane Rotheram & Roger Detels

1999, SRA @ CCH (Mary Jane Rotheram, Naihua Duan Li Li)

Ph.D. Epidemiology, 2003

2004, HIV Vaccine Acceptability Study

L.A. VOICES
VOICES

Vietnam

Thailand

2012, Vietnam National Institute of Hygiene and Epidemiology Enhancing the Commune Health Workers in HIV and Drug Control

2015, Vietnam National Institute of Hygiene and Epidemiology Service Integration for HIV and Drug Control in Vietnam

2005, Thai Ministry of Public Health Family Based Intervention Trial with Families Impacted by HIV

เรารักลูก

2009, Thai Ministry of Public Health Family Focused HIV Disclosure Intervention (K01)

2013, Thai Ministry of Public Health Intervention for Healthcare Providers (R21)

Thailand/Myanmar Fogarty Training Programs (2014)

Building your Mentors

Key Mentors:
- **1996 BA, Tufts University (Inouye)**
- 1997 Summer Fieldwork in Korat, Thailand **(Sacks)**
- **1998 MPH, Yale School of Public Health (Ickovics)**
- 1998 PhD program in Epidemiology at UCLA FSPH **(Detels)**
- 1999 CHIPTS Next Gen Conference **(Merson)**
- 1999 SRA at CCH **(Rotheram, Duan, Li, Milburn, Lester)**
- 2002 UARP (CHRP) New Investigator Award **(Wyatt)**
- **2003 PhD, Epidemiology, CHIPTS Methods Core (Duan)**
- 2004 HIV Vaccine Acceptability Study **(Cunningham)**
- 2005 F2F Intervention Trial in Thailand (NINR) **(Li)**
- 2009 K01 Thailand (NIMH)
- **2010 Assistant Professor-in-Residence**
- 2012 Vietnam Health Worker Trial **(Li)** (NIDA)
- 2013 R21 Thailand (NICHD)
- **2013 Associate Professor-in-Residence**
- 2014 D43 Fogarty Training Program in Thailand and Myanmar, Vietnam (2015) and Cambodia (2020) (NIH, FIC)
- 2015 Vietnam Integration Project **(Li)** (NIDA)
- 2016 Adolescent Medicine Trials Network (NICHD)
- 2020 D43 UCGHI GloCal Training Program (NIH, FIC)
- 2020 Division of Population Behavioral Health **(Milburn, Lester)**
- **2020 Professor-in-Residence**
- 2021 CHIPTS Methods Core Director **(Shoptaw, Milburn, Hamilton)**

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NIH-MENTORED RESEARCH SCIENTIST CAREER DEVELOPMENT AWARD

The purpose of this program is to provide support and protected time for an intensive, supervised career development experience in the biomedical, behavioral, or clinical sciences leading to research independence.

Step 1: Demonstrate your competence!

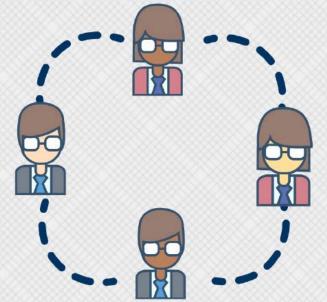Clearly lay our your training gaps and training goals → Identify Mentors to support your training goals and research activities → Propose research activities connected to your training goals and mentors

1 e.g., qualitative data analysis

2 e.g., intervention design

3 e.g., longitudinal data analysis

1 **2** **3**

Propose a clear timeline to connect your training goals, mentor interaction plan, and research activities
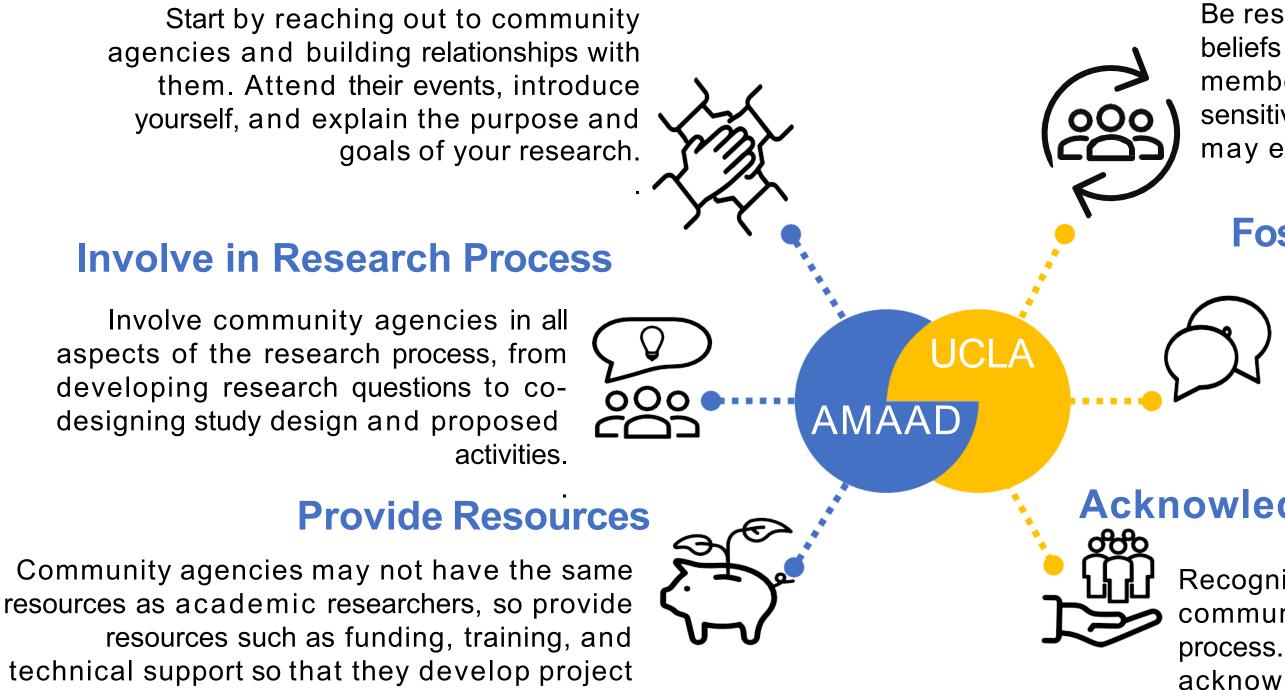
Building your Research Partners: Key Ingredients

Listen First, Speak Later!

Build Relationships

Start by reaching out to community agencies and building relationships with them. Attend their events, introduce yourself, and explain the purpose and goals of your research.

Be Respectful

Be respectful of the community's values and beliefs and work to build trust with community members. It's important to be culturally sensitive and aware of potential biases that may exist in the research process.

Involve in Research Process

Involve community agencies in all aspects of the research process, from developing research questions to co-designing study design and proposed activities.

Foster Two-Way Communication

Listen to community feedback and take it into account when designing and conducting research and keep community members informed of progress and findings.

Provide Resources

Community agencies may not have the same resources as academic researchers, so provide resources such as funding, training, and technical support so that they develop project ownership.

Acknowledge Community Contributions

Recognize and acknowledge the contributions of community agencies and members to the research process. This can be done through co-authorship, acknowledgments in publications, and public recognition events.

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Lessons Learned from My Research Career

Be proactive but selective
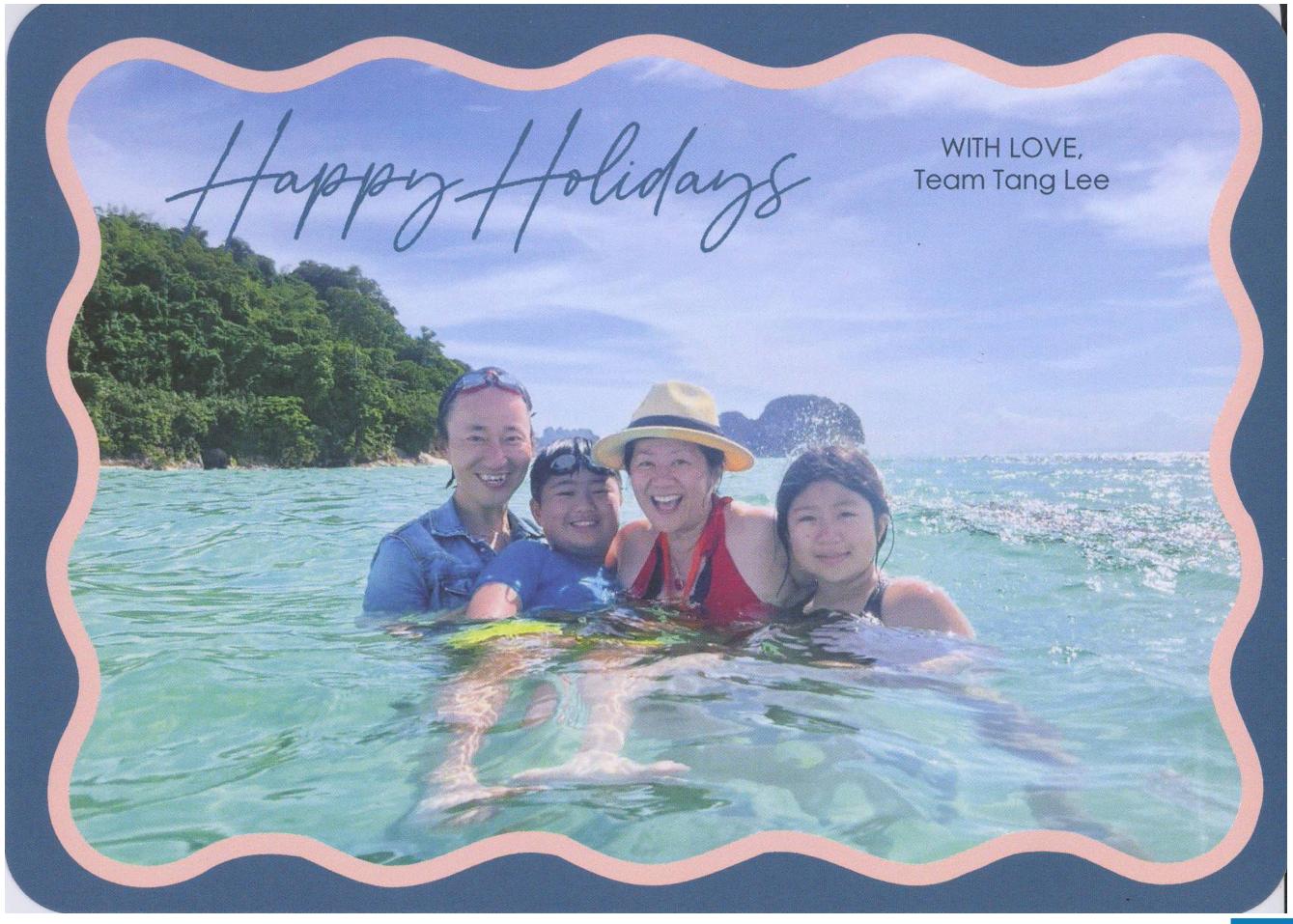
Demonstrate your competence and productivity in key areas

Identify Mentors to address your training needs

Listen first, speak later

Pay it Forward!!!!

Happy Holidays

WITH LOVE,
Team Tang Lee