**T32 PROGRAM LEADERSHIP (PROGRAM DIRECTOR (PD) AND ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS COMPRISING THE T32 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (EC):**

**PD: Robert Terkeltaub, MD.** (ISI Web of Science 10,321 citations, H-index 57). Dr. Terkeltaub is a translational inflammation and osteochondral biologist, and a clinical- translational researcher in gout pivotal clinical trials, implementation medicine, and outcomes. His accomplishments include the first molecular identification of the essential role of PPi generation by PC-1/ENPP1 in CPPD arthropathy, genetic/molecular etiology of the frequently lethal periarticular-arterial calcifying human disease GACI (Generalized Arterial Calcification of Infancy) as due to ENPP1 deficiency (published in *Nature Genetics*), and paradigm-shifting identification of chondrocyte mitochondrial dysfunction and new "inflamm-aging” targets for OA, including the nutritional biosensor AMP-activated protein kinase (AMPK). His translational studies in gout first identified ligands of TLR2 and TLR4, through MyD88 signal transduction, as first signal NLRP3 inflammasome activators in response to urate crystals, IL-8/CXCR2 signaling as pivotal for gouty inflammation, and AMPK as not only constitutive limiting regulator of gouty inflammation, but also transducer of colchicine anti-inflammatory effects of colchicine. His continuing, funded work examines the phagocyte AMPK activity state and epigenome and “integrative omics” in precision medicine for predicting and limiting gout flares, using his assembled VA/UCSD gout cohort of over 6,000 patients. He previously served as UCSD Rheumatology Fellowship Director for 19 years, and as Division Chief. He is Co-Editor (and Review Articles Editor) of *Arthritis and Rheumatology*. He created and directs the first UCSD medical school preclinical (Year 2) Rheumatology course in 2011, and has won multiple UCSD medical education trainee teaching awards. He is founding President of the global research consortium and young investigator development group G-CAN (Gout, Hyperuricemia, and Crystal Associated Disease Research Network).

**T32 Associate Directors (Executive Committee (EC) Members).**

**i. Gary Firestein, MD.** (ISI 19,782 citations, H-index 71). Dr. Firestein is a translational researcher, especially in synovial biology and inflammation signal transduction, past winner of the Nachman prize and twice the Howley prize. Of his greater than 50 lab trainees, nearly all remain in academic or industry research, including prominent faculty and Division Chiefs in academic Rheumatology, and Department leaders in pharma engaged in Rheumatology investigation (eg, Paul Peter Tak, Tomoyuki Inoue, Sang-Heon Lee). His vision of the playing field of Rheumatology includes service on the ACR Board of Directors and chairing the ACR CJP. As PI of the UCSD CTSA, and Dean of Translational Medicine, he is well-positioned to further T32 translational resource integration with T32 trainees and faculty mentors.

**ii. Andrea LaCroix, PhD.** (ISI 48,345 citations, H-index 92). Dr. LaCroix is a senior women’s health and genetic epidemiologist and clinical trialist. She brings more than 30 years of experience conducting prospective studies and randomized trials, with major emphasis on improving mid-life and older women’s health. She has served as Project Director and Co-PI of the Women’s Health Initiative Clinical Coordinating Center (CCC) at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center with leadership of clinical activities, developing and maintaining the biospecimen repository, data sharing and user support of the WHI resource, trial monitoring and analysis and publication of data. In addition, she has been responsible for the development of the WHI cohort as a major data resource in conducting studies of healthy aging and exceptional longevity in postmenopausal women. She is Professor and Chief of Epidemiology at UCSD, and Director of the Women’s Health Center of Excellence, leading a wide array of studies to optimize health of women. As PI of a NIA-funded T32 training program entitled, “Improving Healthcare for Aging Women”, she successfully recruited exceptionally productive early-stage doctoral scientists from disciplines including nutritional epidemiology, pharmacy, nutrition communications, women’s health and life course epidemiology, demography, social work, physical therapy, economic outcomes research, and health psychology, including 3 URM fellows. In this T32, she helps direct MD and PhD trainees into clinical-translational training paths in areas including OA, osteoporosis, and rheumatic disease and physical function loss in aging. Notably, she collaborates with Dr. Terkeltaub as co-investigator a new NIH P50 CORT project on gout biomarkers (anticipated to be funded in 2017 via a 17 CORT program priority score), and with Dr. Salem in genetic epidemiology studies.

**iii. Maripat Corr, MD.** (ISI 9,417 citations, H-index 48). Also serves as T32 Associate Director for Recruitment, Retention, Career Development. Dr. Corr brings experience in training MD Fellows in Rheumatology, and as researcher, her expertise is in Immunology and animal models of arthritis. She discovered the first genetic association of the Wnt pathway with OA, desensitizing mice to inflammation via TLR modulation, and roles of TLR and interferon signaling in chronic pain in model RA. With Dr. Yaksh, she works on the role of innate and adaptive immunity, and gender, in the early and late (allodynia) pain response to inflammatory arthritis.

**iv. Monica Guma, MD.,PhD.,** UCSD. Inflammation biology, metabolomics. (ISI 2,628 citations, H-index 22). Dr. Guma studies mechanisms of chronic inflammation, and modulation by metabolic changes in cells, especially in RA and in synoviocytes. She is an expert in metabolomics and inflamamtion transcription factor signaling.