

## SC-TRIMH Center Program Participant Commitment Pledge

PARTICIPANT NAME:

Select your role(s) as applicable:

RPL (Research Project Leader)	ADMIN Core Leadership
Pilot Project Leader (PPL)	MCM Research Core Leadership
COBRE Mentor	AFT Research Core Leadership
Research Facilitator	PAC Research Core Leadership
Clinical Facilitator	Advisory Committee

As a valued participant of NIH COBRE SC TRIMH, I understand and acknowledge the significance of my role in contributing to the success, positive impact, and long-term sustainability of the program. I hereby commit to upholding the following responsibilities throughout my involvement in SC TRIMH:

1. Dedication to SC-TRIMH's Goals and Objectives: I will enthusiastically support and promote the goals of the SC-TRIMH to enhance research infrastructure and expand the Biomedical Research capacity at Clemson University while promoting outstanding multidisciplinary, collaborative, and translational research in musculoskeletal diseases. I understand the importance of our collective efforts and pledge to actively working towards achieving the program objectives.
2. Active Participation: I commit to actively engage in all program activities including monthly meetings, workshops, symposium, guest lectures, and other activities. I will contribute my perspectives and ideas, fostering a collaborative environment for all participants.
3. Confidentiality: I understand that certain information shared during program activities may be confidential or sensitive. I pledge to maintain and respect the confidentiality while ensuring open communication.
4. Accountability and Responsibility: I will take ownership of my commitments and responsibilities within the program (see Appendix for applicable specific responsibilities) with professionalism. If I encounter challenges or anticipate difficulties meeting those, I will communicate with the Executive Committee or Center Director to seek assistance as needed.
5. Collegiality: I will actively contribute to fostering a supportive and positive environment for all participants. I will encourage collaboration, provide constructive and honest feedback, and celebrate participants' achievements. I will be objective in my professional judgment of others.
6. SC TRIMH Core Values: I will oblige to the SC TRIMH five core values (commitment, accountability, collaboration, integrity, and innovation) to foster program sustainability and its long-term positive impact in the biomedical research community.

By signing this commitment pledge, I affirm my dedication to the principles and core values outlined above. I understand that my adherence to these commitments will not only contribute to the success of SC TRIMH as a leading capacity building program for multidisciplinary translational musculoskeletal research but will enrich my own professional development as well.

Signature:

Date:

## APPENDIX – SC TRIMH Participant’s Duties and Responsibilities

### Executive Committee Member:

- Overseeing financial management of the program, preparing and monitoring annual budget, developing annual progress reports and the NIH Annual Research Performance Progress Report (RPPR).
- Assuring compliance of SC-TRIMH with federal (NIH), state, and institutional regulations.
- Organizing and participating in weekly, monthly, quarterly, and annual meetings with SC-TRIMH constituents.
- Planning and arranging meetings for the Advisory Committee.
- Coordinating new faculty investigator recruitment and hiring with department chairs and search committees.
- Managing the RFA for new pilot projects including evaluating project proposals and making recommendations.
- Coordinating with CUSHR and Clemson University colleges and departments for faculty review and support.
- Enabling effective communication between all SC-TRIMH cores and investigators.
- Providing mentoring to RPLs, PPLs and junior investigators, and assuring training to the mentors.
- Providing oversight to assure rigor, reproducibility and accountability in the research cores and projects.
- Reviewing evaluation metrics to assess productivity and impact for RPL program graduation.
- Assuring appropriate citation of COBRE grant support in manuscripts, posters, and presentations.
- Evaluating all components of SC-TRIMH, including RPLs, cores, mentors, mentoring plan, and administration.
- Reviewing recommendations to enhance COBRE core resources and/or institutional commitments.

### Funded Investigator (RPL):

- Provide to the EC semi-annual progress reports for internal and external reviews (EAC) consisting of roadmap progresses, checklist and mentor reports per deadlines.
- Meet bi-weekly with mentor and attend scheduled meetings, including monthly SC TRIMH team meetings.
- Encourage mentoring team to attend SC TRIMH monthly team meetings
- Actively communicate with mentoring team and Mentoring Program Coordinator and/or Pilot Project Program Coordinator.
- Seek support from Clinical Program Coordinator as needed.
- Manage efficiently and responsibly COBRE allocated budget.
- Maintain updated compliance certifications through CITI including PI certification, COI, and RCR and others as needed.
- Regularly publish in peer--reviewed archived journals, present findings at national and international scientific conferences and cite COBRE P-20 Phase II grant support in all manuscript, conference proceedings/abstracts and presentations.
- Engaging in active grant writing.
- Acknowledging SC TRIMH funding support in all publications (**P20 GM121342**).
- Citing the Clemson University SC TRIMH Center (**#0948**) during the Clemson grant/contract internal application routing process.
- Sharing research accomplishments at SC TRIMH monthly meetings.
- Communicate any issues, needs or problems with project, mentoring or career plan to PI, EC member or AC member.
- Regularly use and promote scientific core resources and expertise.
- Submit annual evaluation package including the progress report for RPPR, NIH biosketch, roadmap progress, checklist, and mentor reports (see semiannual report form resource).
- Submit a competitive R01 application based on COBRE project before or at the end of two years of RPL support.
- Actively participate in Center after graduation.

### Other Funded Investigator (PPL, Core users, etc.):

- Generating research data for publications.
- Engaging in active grant writing.

- Acknowledging SC TRIMH funding support in all publications (**P20 GM121342**).
- Citing the Clemson University SC TRIMH Center (**#0948**) during the Clemson grant/contract internal application routing process.
- Sharing research accomplishments at SC TRIMH monthly meetings.
- Submit annual reports to EC for NIH RPPR.

#### COBRE Primary Mentor:

- Meet bi-weekly with mentee, schedule and attend all scheduled meetings.
- Attend SC-TRIMH monthly meetings, scheduled guest seminars, annual retreat, and workshops.
- Serve as a role model for professionalism, scientific integrity and responsible conduct of research.
- Provide guidance to the mentee for research project and career development.
- Critique grant proposals and manuscripts, and foster a competitive R01 grant application.
- Guide the mentee in Rigor, Reproducibility and Transparency, as well as Data Management.
- Provide support with administrative matters such as managing/advising or scientific problem--solving.
- Be responsive to ADMIN Core requests regarding mentoring progress updates; submit completed mentoring progress reports per deadlines.
- Serve as an advocate for workload management with department chair and EC.
- Recommend mentee as presenter at conferences, journal reviewer, and/or NIH study section reviewer.

#### Research Core Leader:

- Developing and implementing a strategic vision for the research core facility that aligns with SC TRIMH's mission and vision.
- Overseeing the financial aspects of the core facility.
- Identifying and helping acquire necessary equipment, technologies, and resources to enhance the capabilities and services of the core facility.
- Ensuring efficient and timely delivery of core services to researchers, managing service requests, and coordinating service schedules.
- Establishing and maintaining quality control measures to ensure accurate and reliable results from the core facility's services.
- Ensuring that the core facility complies with all relevant regulations, safety guidelines, and ethical standards.
- Providing training and technical support to RPL and other TRIMH researchers.
- Promoting the core facility's capabilities and services to potential users within the institution and beyond.
- Assessing core facility's performance, gathering user feedback, and preparing regular reports for EC/AC and NIH.
- Overseeing data management protocols, data storage, and safeguarding data integrity and confidentiality.

#### Advisory Committee Member:

- Meeting at least twice a year to review the scientific and programmatic progress of the entire SC-TRIMH (Center, Cores, RPLS, mentoring, etc.) and providing critiques and written reports.
- Advising the SC-TRIMH PI/PD and Executive Committee on all programmatic related issue.
- Assuring that the goals of the SC-TRIMH remain well aligned with Clemson University's strategic priorities.
- Reviewing the progress and productivity of the individual research projects and providing recommendations for improvement.
- Supervising and reviewing RPL progress toward achieving independent status and graduation, and making recommendations for continuation, alteration of status, or readiness for graduation/transition.
- Evaluating the management, services and overall effectiveness of the cores and make recommendations for improvement as needed.
- Recommending additional resources or collaborations that could enhance the SC-TRIMH.
- Reviewing/approving proposed pilot projects prior to submission to NIGMS for review/approval.
- Reviewing new NIH RPL applications and providing recommendations for NIGMS endorsement.
- Evaluating the progress of the center toward long-term sustainability goals.