Research Mentoring Awards – Translational Science

Vance G. Fowler, Jr., MD, MHS

Dr. Vance Fowler is a professor with tenure in the Departments of Medicine and Molecular Genetics and Microbiology. He attended Duke University for his undergraduate degree and University of North Carolina Medical School. Dr. Fowler returned to Duke for his residency in Internal Medicine and his fellowship.

Dr. Fowler’s research in S. aureus and antibacterial resistance has led to over 20 years (1999-2021) of continuous NIH funding as PI. He has been in the top 30 Internal Medicine PIs for total NIH funding to U.S. medical schools consistently since 2014. His mentoring activities are supported by a competitively renewed K24. He created or helped to create a number of resources that now support trainee research efforts. These include the Bloodstream Infection Biorepository, which includes DNA, RNA, serum, bloodstream isolate, and extensive clinical data for over 5000 prospectively enrolled Duke patients with bloodstream infection since 1994; the International Collaboration of Endocarditis, a prospective cohort of over 3000 patients from 28 countries; and most recently, the Antibacterial Resistance Leadership Group. These resources allow rich opportunities for mentoring. His 39 trainees, including scholars from 9 countries and trainees from five Divisions, have been first author on over 125 peer-reviewed publications, received a total of 29 awards for research excellence, and served as PI on nine career development awards, three “R-series” awards, and five ARLG-funded projects.

“As a mentor, Dr. Fowler has had enormous success in engaging his mentees in productive and sustainable research programs.”

“Vance is one of a diminishing breed of “triple threats” – an outstanding clinician, educator and researcher. And in the research domain, he manages to excel at both basic and clinical research. He has turned this personal success into an empire for mentoring younger investigators and clinicians.”