

Brooklyn College Cancer Center Annual Report June 2023

BCCC-CURE Personnel 2022-2023

BCCC-CURE leadership this past year included Prof. Maria Contel as Director and Research Area Leader, Prof. Jennifer Basil, PhD, as Associate Director of Community Outreach, and Prof. Brian Gibney, PhD, as Associate Director of Education. The Director and Associate Directors have received 8, 6 (community Outreach) and 3 (Education) hours of reassigned time during this year (teaching load at Brooklyn College is at 18 hours per year for the two academic semesters Fall and Spring or 6 three-credit courses). BCCC-CURE Team has included Ms. Ana Bartolome (Operations Manager and Community Outreach and Engagement Coordinator, part-time 15-30 hours per week depending on the semester) and Sheena Philogene (Assistant Professor and Science Librarian with a commitment of 6 hours per week during the Fall and Spring semesters). BCCC-CURE had two office interns (10h/ week in the two academic semesters). ITS provided technical/web site support when required.

As of June 2023 BCCC-CURE has 22 faculty members (with 16 specifically focused on cancer and cancer-related research), 4 postdoctoral fellows, 30 doctoral students, 5 masters students and full-time research assistants, and over 40 undergraduate research students/assistants. In addition, we train an average of 40 undergraduates per year through partnerships with medical schools in medical translation, shadowing, and lay health advocate programs. Membership is open to all Brooklyn College principal investigators who may want to get involved in cancer-related research projects as well as PIs from partner/collaborating institutions. We currently have three main areas of research: 1) Cancer Biology and Biochemistry; 2) Drug Development and Delivery; and 3) Patient Oriented Research (broadly defined). Faculty belong to the School of Natural and Behavioral Sciences, mostly to the Departments of Chemistry and Biology, with members from the Departments of Health and Nutrition Science, Psychology, and Computer Science. Faculty member Michael Menser, PhD (Philosophy Department) is a community partners for BCCC-CURE and we are collaborating with the Immigrant Student Success Office, the Brooklyn College Haitian Institute, and the Brooklyn College Caribbean Program, BC Health and Wellness Services Office, and BC Health Clinic. We have collaborated on specific events across schools.

Main Outcomes for the Third Year (June 2022 to June 2023)

During this year, as pandemic-related restrictions to enter campus have progressively been removed, we have increased the number of in person events, and have run only one symposium and one seminar online.

General Functioning of the Center

- Elaboration of the strategic plan of BCCC-CURE for the next 5 years as part of the CUNY re-certification plan for Centers (submitted in November 2022, attached as appendix).
- Creation and distribution of newsletter bulletin (every 6 months, attached as appendix).
- Web site weekly updates.

- Processing paperwork for reassigned time for Director/Associate Director, salary supplement for Librarian, part-time Operations Manager, stipends Director/ Associate Directors for Summer 2022.
- Processing paperwork to set-up American Cancer Society (ACS) Institutional grant, and sub-awards at the Research Foundation (including Summer 2023 salaries of key collaborators).
- Processing paperwork for all seed grants, internships, travel grants, and mentoring fellowships for 2023 for the Gray Foundation grant.
- Processing paperwork related to all activities organized (food, travel, stipends, materials, etc.).
- Design of a variety BCCC-CURE fliers for publicity, fundraising purposes and announcements. Running social media accounts (FB, Twitter and Instagram).
- Meetings with BC administrators as needed.
- Weekly meetings for the BCCC-CURE Team and weekly office hours for Director/Associate Directors.
- Overseeing plans for construction of permanent office space, a state-of-the art teaching laboratory and renovations of labs of two BCCC-CURE members which are under way (starting in 2024).
- Providing information on BCCC-CURE to administrators for multiple purposes when required.
- Providing support/sponsorship in the organization of certain events and lectures.
- Preparation of the third annual report and one meeting with the Advisory Board (June 2023).
- Design of fourth year activities plan along with a budget for the next 3 years.
- Supervision of 3 interns (Summer 2022, Fall 2022, and Spring 2023).

Partnerships, Fund Raising, and Center Grant Submissions

- Establishment of a new partnerships with Memorial Medical Care, PC (a practice of MSK physicians), and the Arthur Ashe Institute.
- Continuing partnerships with Maimonides Health, the CUNY Advanced Science Research Center (ASRC), the CUNY Graduate Center, SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, Tisch Cancer Center Institute at Mount Sinai, and Weill Cornell Medicine.
- Establishment of formal partnerships with community organizations in Brooklyn and New York City (see community outreach outcomes).
- Establishment of partnerships (for educational/community outreach purposes) with Janssen (pharmaceutical companies of Johnson & Johnson) and Genentech.
- Research into sustainable funding from Foundations in collaboration with Brooklyn College Foundation for specific center projects.
- Awarded grant from the Gray Foundation to support center operations for 2023 (\$100K for 2023).
- Awarded grant from the American Cancer Society Diversity in Cancer Research Institutional Development Grant Program (DICR IDG) entitled “Supporting Cancer Research at Brooklyn College Cancer Center, a Highly Diverse Institution” (4 years, 2.7M). Grant period (01/01/2023-12/31/2026). In addition to \$75K to support cancer center activities, this grant provides funds to support: 1) research activities for two clinician scientists that belong to, or collaborate with BCCC-CURE; c) three pilot grants per year for assistant professors, c) two postdoctoral fellows for two years, d) six master scholars funded for two years each (\$25K per year per scholar).

- Submitted ACS Grant Supplement to fund 22 underrepresented undergraduate research students at BCCC-CURE for three summers (2024-2026) and training activities (total \$121,000). Results will be known in August of 2023.
- Identification of a competitive ACS Grant Supplement to establish a post-baccalaureate program and fund cancer-research students at Brooklyn College. Application is due in Spring 2024.
- Funds raised through philanthropy, including on Giving Tuesday 2022, (including matching by companies): \$30,314.45.

Research

- Establishing calls for the sub-awards of the ACS Institutional Grant for: a) Pilot Grants, b) Clinician Scientist, c) Postdoctoral Fellows, d) Masters Scholars:
(<https://bccc.blog.brooklyn.edu/research/funding-opportunities/american-cancer-society-dicridg-grant/>)
- Meeting with collaborators at SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University and MSKCC to recruit suitable clinician scientists for the grant, and set-up an optimal deadline.
- Meetings of ACS grant mentoring team and selection committee to start selection of sub-awardees and organization of mentoring/training activities for the first year.
- Meetings with ACS Program Officer, and other ACS Institutional grantees to discuss research building capacity.
- Two pilot grants (\$40K) awarded on first round for two BCCC-CURE investigators transitioning to cancer research (Prof. Devorah Kletenik, Computer and Information Science Department, and Prof. Ryan Murelli, Chemistry Department).
- Establishing calls for different awards through the Gray Foundation grant: a) BCCC-CURE Seed BRCA-Related Cancers Research Grants, b) Summer Doctoral Student Mentoring Initiative Research Grants, c) Summer Research Internships for Undergraduate Students, and d) Travel Grants for Students and Postdocs to attend conferences.
- Selection of awardees for the grants above (1 experimental seed grant awardee (\$10K) Prof. Anjana Saxena (Biology Department), and 2 computational/data analysis grant awardees (\$5k) Prof. Sheena Philogene (Library), and Prof. Shaneen Singh (Biology Department); 6 summer undergraduate research interns, 3 doctoral students summer mentors, four awards to students to travel to National Conferences.
- Recruitment of two Assistant Professors who will start at BC in Fall of 2023: Prof. Murat Alper Cevher (Biology Department) and Prof. Ankit Jain (Chemistry Department).
- Official launch of the “Brooklyn Health Map” on the BCCC-CURE web site and announcement to our partners.
- Running Scientific seminars series on Fridays (or Thursdays) at 12:30 PM. This year we had 12 Scientific Seminars (9 external speakers/3 internal BC speakers) on a variety of topics and from very prestigious universities and medical centers (see appendix). 11 seminars were hybrid with speakers coming to visit campus in person and meeting with faculty and students, and one was fully virtual. Most were very well attended (average 30 participants in person plus audience on line). See fliers in appendices.
- Organization of one in-person Symposium in Fall of 2022: Second Brooklyn Breast and Women’s Cancer Symposium co-hosted by BCCC-CURE and Maimonides Health, with the participation of

SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center (MSKCC), Weill Cornell Medicine, and Mount Sinai Tisch Cancer Center, American Cancer Society, and Johnson & Johnson (Janssen).

- Another scientific/educational symposium organized with the CUNY ASRC is described in the research/education section (see appendixes for symposia fliers).
- Organization of a Drug Development short course (15 hours) for Principal Investigators and Researchers (postdocs, doctoral students and advanced undergraduate students from the departments of Biology, Chemistry and Health and Nutrition Sciences). This training (hybrid modality) took place in Fall of 2022 (one Friday per month September-November) and was imparted by Dr. Benjamin Blass from the School of Pharmacy at Temple University. Participants received a certificate.
- Participation in the Symposium “The Future of Cancer Care” organized by American Cancer Society in December of 2022.
- Identification of funding opportunities for different research fields in the cancer areas (both individual and institutional) including conversations with program officers from NIH. Dissemination of this information to all cancer researchers on a bi-weekly basis by email and updates on the web site.
- 8 federal grants (NIH and NSF) submitted in this period by BCCC-CURE investigators
- 1 new federal grant (NIH) awarded in this period to BCCC-CURE investigators. Due to a back-log at NIH we are expecting to get notification of awards for some grants that are still pending.
- Publication of 29 articles by BCCC-CURE principal investigators, 30 conference abstracts, and 1 US preliminary patent filed.
- 6 doctoral students performing their doctoral research with BCCC-CURE members graduated.
- Update of the web site with news (grants, publications, patents, awards, etc. from BCCC-CURE members). Publicizing scientific achievements/events in social media.
- Research and data mining on cancer disparities in Brooklyn to write grant proposals.
- Two general meetings with BCCC-CURE principal investigators, December 2022 and June 2023.

Education

- Continuing to organize summer research internships for undergraduate students. Administered the “Stacey & Michael Garil Summer Research Internship Program” for summer undergraduate research experiences at Brooklyn College in Summer 2021 and 2022 (total of 11 students). Funding secured for Summer 2023 internships from the Gray Foundation for six research internships.
- Organization with the BCF of the “2022 Stacey and Michael Garil Summer Internship Program, and 2022 Dana Faber and John Hopkins Summer Internship Programs at Brooklyn College Research Showcase” with Bernie and Ethel Garil as honorary guests (September of 2023).
- We are pairing Brooklyn College undergraduates with shadowing opportunities at BCCC-CURE medical institution partners. Thirty-nine students applied for the Colorectal Cancer Summer Internship at Maimonides Health. In June 2022, six students completed a month-long shadowing experience and presented literature research on colorectal cancer via Zoom. For June 2023, twenty-two students applied and six were selected to participate.

- Working with partners at Weill Cornell on the Improving access to clinical trials (IMPACT) in women's cancers through community-based education and provider accessibility project. Curriculum developed for training community health educators. Identified and trained ten community leaders to hold workshops in AY2023-2024 in their Brooklyn Communities. Working to recruit Brooklyn College students to pair with these community health educators for data collection at the AY2023-2024 workshops.
- Organization of one scientific symposium with the CUNY Advanced Science Research Center The 'Nanoscience Approaches to Cancer' symposium was held in October 2022. The symposium was well attended (63 participants).
- We were working towards Clinical Medical Technologist degree program with SUNY Downstate before they indicated that they would not be going forward with the program. With a developed curriculum in hand, we are seeking other partners with which to launch the program.
- Working with partners at Maimonides Health Cancer Center on a medical scribe program to train Brooklyn College students as medical scribes. Currently trying to ameliorate several legal hurdles identified by the general council of CUNY Central.
- Continuing the update of the web site and social media with educational opportunities for students as well as use the Office of Pre-Health Profession Services to announce opportunities for students. These include summer internships, career seminars, and the Brooklyn College President's the 'Fireside Chat' with Dr. Selwin M. Vickers, President, and CEO of Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center.
- Continuing with seminars to student's organizations to raise awareness of research possibilities at BCCC-CURE for undergraduate students. Offered two career seminars in the BCCC-CURE seminar series: October 28, 2022, BCCC-CURE Educational Opportunities for Brooklyn College Students and March 9, 2023 Introduction to Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplant & Cellular Therapies.
- Medical Interpretation Training course for bilingual Brooklyn College students was not offered in either Fall 2022 and Spring 2023. Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center plans to offer it on campus in Spring 2024 following the instructor's maternity leave.

Community Outreach

- Continuing collaborations with medical organizations: Maimonides Health Community Outreach and Engagement: screenings and clinical trials; Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center Community Outreach; Public Health Program; Kingsborough County Cancer Center; American Cancer Society; Leukemia and Lymphoma Society; NYC Metro Outreach; The HEAT Clinic at SUNY Downstate; Tisch Cancer Center at Mount Sinai; Aid for Aids International; National Association of Hispanic Nurses; Weill Cornell Translational Science Center; NYU Langone Health Center: Perlmutter Cancer Center; Aid for Aids International; the National Association of Hispanic Nurses; and Coalition of Concerned Medical Professionals.
- Continuing community partnerships: Mixteca Organization and Haitian Community Coalition.
- Continuing partnerships with different Brooklyn College departments and offices: BC Health and Wellness Services Office, BC Health and Nutrition Sciences Department, BC Immigrant Student Success Office, BC SAIL - BC Clubs, BC Personal Counseling Office, BC Health and Wellness Center, BC Disabilities Office, BC Health and Nutrition Sciences Department, BC SEED Dept. and Physical

Education Teacher Ed, BC Women's Center, BC Music Department, and the BC Graduate Center Worker Education.

- Establishment of the following new collaborations: Arthur Ashe Institute; New York State ACS HPV Coalition; Cancer Equity Accelerator Cabinet at Mount Sinai Tisch Cancer Center, Project Renewal; Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center Brooklyn; and Immigrant Health and Cancer Disparities (IHCD) Services at MSK, and Health First.
- Establishment of the New York State HPV Collegiate Group (informal sub-group of NYS ACS HPV Coalition) with participation of the American Cancer Society, Syracuse University, St. Lawrence County Health Initiative, Inc., Stony Brook Cancer Center, Upstate Cancer Center, Merck, and Brooklyn College Health Clinic.
- Development of a HPV resource hub to foster comparative research studies over multiple universities across NYS, and share materials to build awareness in the college-age community.
- In collaboration with the Tisch Cancer Center at Mount Sinai, launching our second cohort of four students in Lay Health Navigator Program at Brooklyn College (Spring and Summer 2023). The first cohort included eight students who worked during the Summer and Fall of 2022. Across the first two cohorts, the navigators contacted 162 participants (both eligible and ineligible for free lung cancer screening) who filled out the eligibility survey with a total of 10 completed lung cancer screenings.
- Developing four cancer awareness month-long social media campaigns focused on cancer prevention and breaking misconceptions around breast cancer, women's cancers in the Latinx community (in English and Spanish), HPV vaccine and HPV-related cancers.
- Developed a month-long HPV Vaccine and HPV-Related Cancers Prevention Campaign with an information session, social media posts and videos, and tabling during the BC Health and Wellness Fair with an interactive Jeopardy HPV Game played by at least 30 people.
- Organizing on October 28th, 2022 Community Outreach Event "Community Outreach Breast Cancer Prevention Workshop"— Session 3 of the Second Brooklyn Breast and Women's Cancer Symposium co-hosted by BCCC-CURE and Maimonides Health, with the participation of SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, and Mount Sinai Tisch Cancer Center. (10 people attended the hybrid event.)
- Organizing on October 11th, 2022 Community Outreach Event, "A Talk for Survivors" Domestic Violence and Breast Cancer Prevention. Co-Hosted by BC Women of Color Club, BC Health Clinic, and BCCC-CURE with the participation of Mt. Sinai Tisch Cancer Center. (14 people attended in person)
- Tabling and taking part as the "BC Against Cancer Team" in the borough-wide October 9th, 2022 American Cancer Society Making Strides - Breast Cancer Walk (at Coney Island Boardwalk, Maimonides Stadium)
- Organizing on September 21st, 2022 Community Outreach In-Person/Facebook Live Event "Women's Cancer Prevention Workshop in Spanish" Co-Hosted by BCCC-CURE, Mixteca, and Mount Sinai Tisch Cancer Center. (10 women attended in person)
- Community Outreach Coordinator Monitored a Spanish language webinar on "A Conversation about HPV Prevention and Treatment in the Latino Community Presented by an Expert Panel" hosted by the HPV Cancer Alliance.
- Organizing on February 4th, 2023 a half day Health Fair with Free Mammograms for Latinas (at Mixteca Organization) Facebook Live Talk on Preventing Men's Cancers in Latinos & Facebook Live

Talk on Preventing Women's Cancers in Latinas. (Lunch included) 30 women and 15 men attended our in-person Spanish information sessions.

- Organizing on March 23rd, 2023 our First Health Information Session with Maimonides Health for BC Staff on Cancer Prevention, Treatment, and Clinical Trials in Brooklyn "Talking About Cancer. These Conversations Save Lives." Luncheon included (36 people attended and five men got screened for prostate cancer at the Mount Sinai Brooklyn mobile van.)
- Organizing on March 30th, 2023 BC Cancer Center (BCCC-CURE) and Health and Nutrition Sciences Department Hybrid Information Session "Embracing the Power of Youth: Champions Against HPV-associated Cancers" Hosted by Prof. Margrethe Horlyck-Romanovsky. Lunch included. (42 students attended the hybrid event.)
- Organizing on April 1st, 2023 Health Fair with Free Mammograms for Latinas (at Mixteca Organization) resulting in 5 breast cancer screenings and 3 referrals.
- Organizing on April 18th, 2023 the Lung Cancer Health Education Session hosted by Health and Nutrition Sciences Department and the Arthur Ashe Institute (AAIUH). Hosted by Prof. Horlyck-Romanovsky, Prof. Koizumi, & Prof. Kruszelnicka (Approximately 25 students attended.)
- Organizing on April 27th, 2023 BC Health and Wellness Fair: Taking Care of Your Own Health (at the BC West Quad) Cohosted by BCCC-CURE and BC Division of Student Affairs, Health, and Wellness. With the participation of over 35 health providers from Brooklyn College and Brooklyn at large. (Attended by at least 200 students, staff, and faculty.)
- Attending and tabling at the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society's Talk: The Patient Education Program, "Navigating Cancer Care."
- Attending the 6th Annual TRANSPORT Symposium by SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University.
- Attending the American Cancer Society's 2022 ACS CAN Future of Cancer Care Forum.
- Attending the Webinar Series to Promote Awareness on HPV and HPV-Related Diseases by the American Women Medical Association, Global Initiative Against HPV and Cervical Cancer, and Indiana University.

Opportunities & Challenges

We have been able to advance the activities proposed in June of 2022 and some new ones and have received two grants (American Cancer Society and Gray Foundation) to support the center. The ACS grant is key for the growth and future sustainability of the center. We anticipate the following outcomes at the end of the ACS grant period:

- To have increased the number of cancer grants submissions to federal agencies (like NIH, DoD) and foundations (like American Cancer Society and Leukemia & Lymphoma Society) for principal investigators, but also institutional grants such as NCI Specialized Center-Cooperative Agreements (U54) in collaboration with partnering healthcare institutions. This DCR program grant will benefit 14 principal investigators (including two clinician scientists) as well as early career trainees that can also help build the research capacity at their hosts groups.
- To jump-start the careers of BCCC-CURE junior faculty (existing and to be recruited) and the adequate establishment of their research laboratories. We expect this, along with the mentoring provided for teaching and service, to be highly beneficial for their successful promotion and tenure processes.

- A successful transition to cancer research careers for other trainees like the postdoctoral fellows (as independent investigators, or senior investigators in government agencies, biotechnology/pharmaceutical companies). A successful transition for master's scholars and towards doctoral programs, and jobs at government agencies, biotechnology/pharmaceutical companies.
- The improvement of mentoring of junior and mid-career faculty and early career trainees involved in cancer and biomedical research at BCCC-CURE and at Brooklyn College in general.
- The increase of cancer research projects with clinical translational potential in some of the following areas: drug development, cancer disparities, and/or cancer control and prevention.

We have continued to meet virtually and in person, with the leadership and teams of medical institutions, community groups, funding agencies, private foundations, and companies to expand our network of willing partners. We now have the opportunity to use the natural connections with, and between, our partners to strengthen these relationships in furtherance of our mission. We have also held successful in-person hybrid scientific talks, symposia, training workshops, and community outreach events which were well received. The community outreach components of some of these events were recorded and are available on the BCCC-CURE website. Our in-person office receives the visits of students and staff on a weekly basis. Students have been getting information on different educational/research possibilities (including other programs on Campus). Furthermore, members and BC staff requested a workshop on cancer specific for them, which we organized and provided in Spring of 2023. We will continue with a similar number of activities in Fall of 2023 and Spring of 2024. During the next year, we want to increase the extramural educational opportunities for Brooklyn College students through collaborations with our partners. The demand for such experiences continues to very high (>100 students applying to some of the programs). In addition, we want to focus on supporting the development of courses/certificates connected to oncology and biomedical research (through the Gray Foundation we have secured some money for reassigned time for 1-2 faculty members working on curriculum development).

We will work on the specific aims of the institutional grant (ACS) to help build research capacity at BCCC-CURE and the college. We will try to further our collaboration with the Gray Foundation and apply for more funds for 2024. We will continue to engage with our partners at NCI-designated medical institutions to build the collaborations necessary for successful future grant proposals down the line. We are working on prospectuses for additional fundraising campaigns to support BCCC-CURE and its activities including postdoctoral research fellowships and graduate student fellowships and money to support infrastructure and instrumentation updates.

The growth of BCCC-CURE over the third year continues to be the result of the tireless efforts of the Director and Associate Directors to this project. During 2022-2023 they received reassigned time (40% of equivalent teaching load for the Director, 33% for the Associate Director of Community Outreach, and a 17% for the Associate Director of Education) and summer stipend (the equivalent of 7 days) which we provided for the Director and Associate Director of Community Outreach in summer of 2022. We are having a change in the leadership team, as Dr. Brian Gibney will become Chair of the Chemistry Department on July 1st. Thus instead of having three different individuals assigned to the different areas, we will have a Director (Dr. Maria Contel), and a Vice-Director (Jennifer Basil) who will receive 10, and 7 h of reassigned time per year, respectively. We are happy to report that our part-time Operations Manager position will become a full-time Operations Manager/Community Outreach Coordinator position. This will provide much needed support for the center.

In terms of challenges, we have realized this year that unfortunately, we do not have the resources in terms of time and personnel, or bandwidth to lead the Brooklyn Cancer Consortium project, as proposed by our partners. In addition, we have decided to limit our community outreach activities until we get more personnel/grants to fund these activities in the future. We will keep programs but will not engage in generating new partnerships. As in previous years, the BCCC-CURE team continues working hard to raise funds and submit grants

Expenses (June 2022 -June 2023)

- Part-time Operations Manager/Administrative Assistant (September 1 st , 2022 - August31 st , 2023, 15h/week plus fringe):	\$37,836.04
- Part-time Salary Supplement (September 1 st , 2022 - August31 st , 2023, 5h/week plus fringe):	\$13,540.68
- Part-time Office Intern (two semesters):	\$4,243.50
- Reassigned time for Director and Associate Directors at reduced (adjunct) rate plus fringe (4 h/week and 3 h/week for two semesters Fall 2022 & Spring 2023, respectively):	\$36,225.00
- Summer stipends (2022) to the Director and Associate Directors:	\$20,700.00
- Seminars/Trainings (lunch expenses, travel expenses):	\$4,328.86
- Symposium:	\$6,129.23
- Community outreach events & publicity (printed fliers):	\$2,555.82
- Office Expenses:	\$5,006.8
- Brooklyn Health Map:	\$2,000
Total =	\$135,121.75

Summary of Fourth Year Plan*

General Functioning of the Center

- Reorganization of the leadership. Dr. Brian Gibney (Associate Director of Education) has become the Chair of the Chemistry Department. For next year the leadership will be reorganized with Dr. Maria Contel as Director, and Dr. Jenny Basil as Vice-Director. Both will take care of the different areas, but the Operations Manager Ms. Ana Bartolome will have a more prominent role (when converted to a full-time line) in community outreach coordination.
- Submission of paperwork including new recertification requirements by CUNY.
- Continue meetings with BC administrators, and the BCCC-CURE Team and weekly office hours for Director/Vice Director.
- Organization of two Advisory Board meetings (one in June of 2023, one in June of 2024). We have decided that yearly meetings work best for BCCC-CURE/board members.
- Securing a full-time position for Operations Manager/Community Outreach Coordinator.
- Setting-up two internships for the academic year in the office for Brooklyn College students. Providing a stipend (\$15/h for 10 h/week) to at least one intern in the center.
- Continue overseeing plans for construction of office space, a state-of-the art teaching laboratory and renovations of labs of two BCCC-CURE members which are under way (starting in 2024).

- Continue with work related to publicity of the center (fliers, web site, social media, presentations to potential partners and donors).
- Fundraising for, and elaboration of a publicity short video about the center.
- Continuing the newsletter (to be distributed twice a year, January and July) for our members and partners.
- Continue with our visibility campaign in social media. Preparing an article on BCCC-CURE for the BC alumni magazine.
- Processing paperwork for reassigned time for Director/Vice Director, summer salaries 2023 ACS key investigators, hiring part-time or full-time Operations Manager/Community Outreach Coordinator 2023-2024, interns, and other grantees, as well as paperwork related to all of our activities.
- Preparation of annual report (fourth year) and proposed plan/budget for the fifth year.

Partnerships and Center Grant Submissions

- Finalizing establishment of formal partnerships (with memorandum of understanding) with Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center and SUNY Downstate.
- Continue with the establishment of formal partnerships with Community Organizations in Brooklyn and New York City (see plans for community outreach).
- Submission of ACS Grant Supplement to establish a post-baccalaureate program and fund cancer-research students at Brooklyn College in Spring of 2024.
- Work in the collaboration with the Gray Foundation to renew the center grant proposal (specific project linking BRCA-related cancer research and educational/community outreach component) in 2024. Present a white paper on a project to fund Brooklyn College Undergraduate Students to serve as mentors of High School Students in Health Academies organized/supervised by the Arthur Ashe Institute.
- Fundraise to support postdoctoral research fellowships and graduate student fellowships for non-US citizen/resident' scientists.

Research

- Update of profiles and directory on the web site. Incorporation of two new principal investigators that are joining BC in the Fall of 2024 as Assistant Professors: Prof. Murat Alper Cevher (Biology Department) and Prof. Ankit Jain (Chemistry Department).
- Select awardees for the ACS Programs, a) Clinician Scientist (2023-2027), c) Postdoctoral Fellows (2023-2025), and d) Masters Scholars (first cohort 2023-2025)
- Select awardees ACS Pilot Grants (Second Year) in Spring of 2024.
- Assessment ACS Grant (First year) and elaboration of annual report.
- Attendance by ACS Grant PI (Contel) and key collaborators (Basil and Gibney) to the Conference for ACS grantees in Atlanta in October of 2023
- Continuing scientific seminars series on Fridays at 12:30 PM. We have planned 4-5 seminars per semester (Fall 2023 and Spring 2024). Increase the number of speakers from industry and government organizations.

- Set-up mentoring and training activities as part of the ACS grant (to be further developed) for the first year.
- Set-up of peer-review groups to support grant submissions from BCCC-CURE members.
- Organization of the First Brooklyn Blood Cancer Symposium (September 2023) and a third edition of the Brooklyn Symposium on Colorectal Cancer (March 2024) with our Brooklyn and NYC partners and some external invited speakers. These events will be in person including the showcase of research by members and partner, and an educational component for undergraduate students. We will have participation of community members in the community outreach component.
- Set-up of a formal peer-review system for BCCC-CURE cancer-related grant submissions.
- Continuing the update of the web site with news (grants, publications, patents, awards, etc., from BCCC-CURE members). Publicizing scientific achievements/events in social media.
- Organization of a Fall 2023 general meeting with BCCC-CURE principal investigators and end of the Fall social event and in Spring 2024.
- Continuing a weekly coffee/tea hour for principal investigators and students.
- Fund-raise to set-up of annual research awards for BCCC-CURE members and students (best publication, best doctoral thesis dissertation, best presentation undergraduate research, etc.) to be coupled to a research day symposium showcasing research by BCCC-CURE members during the winter or summer.

Education

- Work with departments to support curriculum development for courses/certificates related to oncology/biomedical research and public health.
- Continue developing the proposal for a Brooklyn College bachelor's degree in Clinical Medical Technology. Find suitable partners at a medical institution.
- Restart the Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center's Medical Interpretation Training course in Fall 2023 and Spring 2024 at Brooklyn College.
- Continue offering the formal Physician Shadowing Program for Brooklyn College undergraduates in collaboration with Maimonides Health in June of 2024.
- Initiate an academic year shadowing program with Memorial Medical Care, PC, a practice of Memorial Sloan Kettering physicians adjacent to the Brooklyn College campus. This program will focus on blood cancers. There will be 3 paid summer internships for students.
- Start a program in Lay Health Navigator training for Brooklyn College students in collaboration with the Arthur Ashe Institute (funded by One Medical Health) for the academic course 2023-2024.
- Administer and evaluate the 2023 Summer Research Internship Programs, Doctoral Mentorship Program, and Travel Grants for Students.
- Organize one scientific symposium with the CUNY Advanced Science Research Center focused on nanoscience in Spring of 2024.
- Continuing the update of the website and social media with educational opportunities for students.
- Continuing to try to pair students interested in cancer research with BCCC-CURE research opportunities.

- Organize a workshop for educational/research opportunities at Downstate Health Sciences University with our partners at this institution.
- Finalize the development of the Medical Scribe Training Program for Brooklyn College students in collaboration with Maimonides Health.

Research/Education

- Securing funds for summer internships for undergraduate student research (2024).
- Establish a new program for fellowships (postdoctoral, doctoral and master's students) through donations.
- Continuing with seminars to student's organizations to raise awareness of research possibilities at BCCC-CURE for undergraduate students.

Community Outreach

- Continue work with partners in the borough and identify new funding opportunities.
- Continue our established partnerships with the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, NYC Metro Outreach, and Maimonides Community Outreach and Engagement, Mount Sinai Tisch Cancer Center, and ACS including seminars and educational events.
- Continue our partnership with the MSKCC Disparity Office and the new MSKCC Center to open in Flatbush (close to the college).
- Participate in a Mount Sinai Tisch Cancer Center Community Outreach & Engagement (COE) Retreat in September.
- Participate in a Breast Cancer Awareness campaign with the American Cancer Society: Making Strides March in October of 2024.
- Formalize partnership with Arthur Ashe Institute for community outreach and engagement.
- In collaboration with Arthur Ashe, train 6 students to become Certified Lay Health Navigators.
- In collaboration with Arthur Ashe (Dr. Blackwell) establish training program for Community Health Educators.
- Continue our partnership with Haitian Community Coalition.
- Continue our collaboration with BC Health Clinic to provide vaccines, and screening to the Brooklyn College community.
- Organize at least 2 Public Outreach Seminars at community centers on the topics of cancer prevention, screening and free or low-cost treatments, e.g., Mixteca.
- Collaborate with MSKCC in the organization of an outreach event in Fall 2024 as part of the First Brooklyn Blood Cancer Symposium.
- Organize at the Second Health Information Session with Maimonides Health for BC Staff on Cancer Prevention, Treatment, and Clinical Trials in Brooklyn "Talking About Cancer. These Conversations Save Lives."
- Organize and host the second BCCC-CURE Health and Wellness Fair at Brooklyn College Wellness Fair in Spring of 2024.

**The plans for the fourth year will be modified accordingly if some of the foundation grants submitted during the third year are awarded (to achieve the specific aims of the grants)*

Appendixes

- I . PDFs of Fliers for Scientific Seminars, Symposia, and Community Outreach Events
- II. Calls awards funded by the Gray Foundation
- III. Materials Submitted to CUNY for the CUNY Re-Certification Plan for Centers (November 2022)
- IV. Annual reports 2021-2022 & 2020-2021

Attachments

- Minutes Last Meeting (06/07/2023)
- Budget for Fourth Year
- News Bulletins January and June 2023