



## Center for Emerging and Infectious Diseases Charter

### Purpose and Mission

There shall be a Center for Emerging and Infectious Diseases whose mission is to develop, evaluate and implement effective countermeasures against existing infectious disease threats. It does so through research, teaching and education, and service programs.

The Center will conduct basic, clinical, and applied research to accelerate development and introduction of vaccines and related interventions to control emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases affecting populations in Detroit, Michigan, the United States, and around the world. The Center will be a unique resource within the Wayne State University research community and beyond to enable rapid implementation of research teams to prepare clinical vaccine trials in outpatient, inpatient and community settings. The Center's staff and partners will conduct these studies to expedite safe and rigorous product development in partnership with federal research agencies, industry, foundations, community-based organizations, and residents (particularly residents from underserved populations). Within the scope of the clinical trial activities, the Center is dedicated to efforts that foster diversity, equity and inclusion of population groups who have been historically underrepresented in clinical research and trials.

The Center will offer virtual and in-person seminars to advance knowledge of emerging infections among scientists, clinicians, educators and the lay public to support improved participation in vaccine clinical trials as well as help deploy strategies for harm reduction and disease prevention. Importantly, the Center provides tailored level-appropriate training in vaccine and emerging infectious diseases for students, staff scientists, residents, post-graduate fellows and faculty. The Center provides education internally to Wayne State students that encourages active dialogue as well as application of new tools and technologies toward the goal of reducing health disparities. Training includes opportunities for how to best develop, deploy, and evaluate clinical diseases particularly in the context of minority and underserved communities. The Center also provides training opportunities for Wayne State University students related to public health and emerging infectious diseases. In addition, education is provided to community residents, members and organizations from local communities to provide facts, build understanding and appreciation of science, and build trust in traditionally marginalized communities.

The Center will provide programs to Detroit communities, educators, scientists, healthcare workers and government decision-makers with credible, evidence-based information to guide informed decision-making for participation in clinical trials as well as utilization of proven tools that protect against emerging and re-emerging diseases of epidemic and pandemic potential. The Center will also be a source of credible and targeted information for the public and for continuing education. Public understanding of emerging infectious diseases and mitigation strategies is essential to population disease control and prevention. Misinformation and incomplete understanding of emerging and infectious diseases have increased mortality and morbidity and extends the duration of pandemics. The Center will aid communities with less direct access to information and will hold public education campaigns targeted to specific audiences that will be delivered through trusted and familiar channels that are consistent and sustained.

The Center aspires to be a leader in emerging and infectious diseases that inspires the next generation of students and researchers to protect the health and wellbeing of populations worldwide in the face of ever-evolving infectious disease threats.

In pursuing the Center's mission, the Center shall seek to obtain and expand external funding support from both private and public sources. The Center will also seek to cooperate and collaborate with public and private agencies and corporations in the development of research, training, and service programs.

### **Personnel**

The Center shall be managed by co-directors appointed by the President or his/her designee and serving at his/her pleasure. The co-directors shall report to the Vice President for Research or his/her designee.

The primary responsibility of the staff of the Center shall be to conduct research, provide instruction and training, engage in community outreach and service, and obtain extramural funding in support of the Center's research. The staff of the Center shall be multidisciplinary and include, as necessary, research faculty paid fully or in part from Center funds, faculty and staff from University departments, research scientists, research associates and assistants, clerical support and such other personnel as may be needed to carry out the Center's mission. The faculty and staff of the Center shall not be limited to a single discipline, college or school, but will include, as appropriate, faculty and staff representing a variety of disciplines from those colleges and schools expressing interest and expertise in the development of emerging and infectious diseases and research. In the case of a participating faculty member holding tenure, or with tenure-track status, his/her tenure or tenure-track status shall be in his/her academic unit.

### **Governance**

The primary responsibility for the day-to-day operation of the Center shall reside with the Center co-directors, who shall also draw upon the advice and counsel of an internal advisory committee to be composed of the dean of the School of Medicine, the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, the Vice President for Health Affairs, the Vice President for Research, and the co-directors of the Center. The internal advisory committee will meet twice per year in the spring and the fall to give the co-directors advice on the operation and development of the Center and will be chaired by the Vice President for Research. The Vice President for Research may appoint two additional faculty members that serve for two-year rotating terms.

The Center shall have an external advisory board to give guidance and direction in setting priorities, in assessing results, and in identifying new opportunities. The external advisory board members shall be appointed by the Center's co-directors after consultation with the Vice President for Research or his/her designee. Membership shall include representation from public and private organizations with recognized expertise in infectious diseases. The external advisory board will meet each year and will be convened by the co-directors of the Center.

### **Operating and Financial Procedures**

The Center shall follow all operating, personnel and financial procedures that apply to academic units in the University.

In seeking external funding to support research and other activities, the Center shall conform to the University's standard grant application procedures and to University research policies.

The Center shall be governed by standard University budgetary and financial procedures, and it shall annually submit a budget for approval by the Vice President for Research and the Board of Governors in the course of the regular University budget review process.

The Center periodically will be audited by the Internal Audit Department. It may be subject to such additional audits by State auditor or others, as are periodically conducted in the University or that may be specially conducted in connection with specific funding sources for the Center.

### **Review**

The Center shall prepare an annual report for the President or his/her designee describing its research and training accomplishments and community interactions as they relate to its mission.

Every six years following the adoption of its permanent charter, the Center shall undergo a comprehensive review in accordance with the existing Statute on Centers and Institutes approved by the Board of Governors.