Future of Bioscience Graduate and Postdoctoral Training Funding Models

Challenge:

- Impose governor on the amount of training we try to achieve
- Define the appropriate mechanism for supporting training
- Identify a training path that will enhance and maintain the enthusiasm of the trainee

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Solutions and strategies to overcome barriers:

• Ensure detailed information is available to potential trainees on realistic outcomes to their training

•Need to alter the mindset that more faculty (grants) should also mean more trainees

• Staff scientists or research specialists supported

•Financial investment by learners

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Solutions and strategies to overcome barriers:

•Supplements to R grants specifically for training
- Expand the use of training grants to shift trainees from research grants; this is where the best training takes
- Both opportunities require mentoring plans and outcomes measurement (IDPs)

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Solutions and strategies to overcome barriers:

• The current model is that you can default to a MS degree; an alternative model is that a PhD is predicated on having obtained a MS
• University contribute to the salary of the PI; the PI can devote more time to mentoring
• Money given to a trainee to support his/her research to bring to the institution; in turn, the institution is challenged to give the trainee desired outcomes

FOBGAPT Workshop 6- quotes of the day:

- **Using research dollars for training?**
  - **"** We love all of our children the same, but we can't afford to keep having more."
  - **"**If banana's were free, we'd all be slipping on banana peels"

- **Putting negative control loops in the system to limit trainee numbers:**
  - "Without negative feedback in your thermostat, your house would overheat and you would expire"

- **Regarding predicting which of the trainees that we accept into our programs will succeed**
  - "Eventually ever pig finds a truffle"

- **Regarding the joy of training students:**
  - **"** Trainees are like Play-doh: they are malleable, colorful, and if you push them, you can mold them into what you want."
  - **"Trainees are like Plato."**