MD2K Center of Excellence: Training and Development of a Transdisciplinary mHealth Workforce

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The Mobile Sensor Data-to-Knowledge (MD2K) Center of Excellence has developed a wide variety of training resources to build and enable a sustainable community of transdisciplinary mHealth data scientists. First, MD2K organizes an annual, week-long immersive boot-camp in transdisciplinary mHealth methodologies and approaches. Co-funded by a R25 grant from OBSSR/NIDA, the mHealth Training Institutes (mHTI) held at UCLA has trained over 70 mHealth scholars from 50+ institutions to date. Selected from a very competitive pool of applicants, the mHTI scholars are drawn from across the academic spectrum. All scholars undergo pre– and post-mHTI assessments by a team of educational specialists at the UCLA Center for Research on Evaluation, Standards, and Student Testing. The qualitative and quantitative feedback from the scholars has been extremely positive and the feedback informs and refines future mHTI's.

Second, MD2K has created a virtual collaboratory called mHealthHUB, a dedicated website that serves as an organizing hub and online repository of mHealth tools, technologies and educational materials as well as a forum for the rapidly growing community of mHealth researchers across the globe to connect and collaborate. Recorded videos of all the mHTI lectures and regular MD2K webinars are curated on this site for broad dissemination.

Third, MD2K develops and releases training manuals and videos to accompany the release of MD2K's open-source software mHealth platforms (mCerebrum and Cerebral Cortex). The educational materials help end-users understand how to use the MD2K's software for collecting, curating, analyzing, and interpreting high-frequency data collected from various mobile sensors. Open-source code is made available at public GitHUB repositories for the community to adapt the software for their needs and contribute to refinements.

This talk will familiarize the BD2K community to the MD2K's training activates and resources, and stimulate discussion on how to use and contribute to MD2K's training resources.