Subject: RE: ACS Epidemiology Research Program
Date: Wed, 23 Oct 2013 19:52:19 +0000
From: Susan Gapstur <susan.gapstur@cancer.org>
To: Stan Young <stan.young@omicsoft.com>

Dear Stan,

Thanks for sharing the interesting comments below from the scientist and the biostatistician.
I reviewed your pre-proposal and your responses to my questions about your pre-proposal with a few of my colleagues. While we appreciate your interest in collaborating with us, we have decided not to move forward with this project for a few reasons.

First, as described in our Data Access Policies and Procedures, we evaluate proposals based on several criteria. One of those criteria is the appropriateness of ACS data to answer the research question. As mentioned in my previous email it is not clear to us why you need prospective cohort data, and particularly the Cancer Prevention Study II cohort data, to evaluate your methods. Your response was that you…

"learned something of the data set when I met Dan Greenbaum of HEI (http://www.healtheffects.org/) in 2012 where I testified to the US House Committee on Science, Space and Technology. My main point was that important data sets should be available for examination. Dan agreed and said to the committee that HEI supported data availability. As HEI had used data from ACS and there are publications using ACS data, access to the data seemed feasible and I would have benchmark publications to help judge the effectiveness of my new data de-identification and analysis methods."

This response does not clarify why prospective data, and our data in particular, are needed to test your method.

Second, we also assess the proposal in terms of staff burden. As you can imagine, we receive many external proposals and we cannot agree to collaborate on all of them. Because of the aforementioned concern that this project seemed to be largely methods development and does not require prospective data to answer, we felt that other competing demands on our time outweigh approval of this proposal.

I wish you the best on your research,

Sue

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From: Stan Young [mailto:stan.young@omicsoft.com]
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2013 11:26 AM
To: Susan Gapstur
Subject: Re: ACS Epidemiology Research Program

Sue:

Is there anything more you need from me for ACS to consider my pre-proposal?

Stan
On 9/23/2013 4:56 PM, Susan Gapstur wrote:
Dear Dr. Young,

Thank you for checking in.

You haven't missed an email from us – we are still considering your pre-proposal and will get back to you soon.

Thanks for your patience,

Sue

From: Stan Young [mailto:stan.young@omicsoft.com]
Sent: Monday, September 23, 2013 7:01 AM
To: Susan Gapstur
Subject: Re: ACS Epidemiology Research Program

Dear Dr. Gapstur:

I've been traveling so I may have missed your email on the proposal for de-idetification of individuals. Can you let me know the ACS decision on this proposal?

Thanks,

Stan Young

On 9/6/2013 1:48 PM, Susan Gapstur wrote:
Dear Dr. Young,

We received your proposal to develop a collaboration with us for research using ACS CPS data to address the question of de-identification of individuals in a large data base.

We are considering your request and will reach back out to you shortly.

Susan Gapstur

From: Stan Young [mailto:stan.young@omicsoft.com]
Sent: Wednesday, August 28, 2013 1:44 PM
To: Susan Gapstur
Cc: Robert Obenchain
Subject: ACS Epidemiology Research Program

Susan Gapstur
Vice President of Epidemiology Research
susan.gapstur@cancer.org

Dear Dr. Gapstur:

Attached find a short bio and pre-proposal for research using ACS CPS data to address the question of de-identification of individuals in a large data base.

Let me know if you have questions.

Stan Young

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