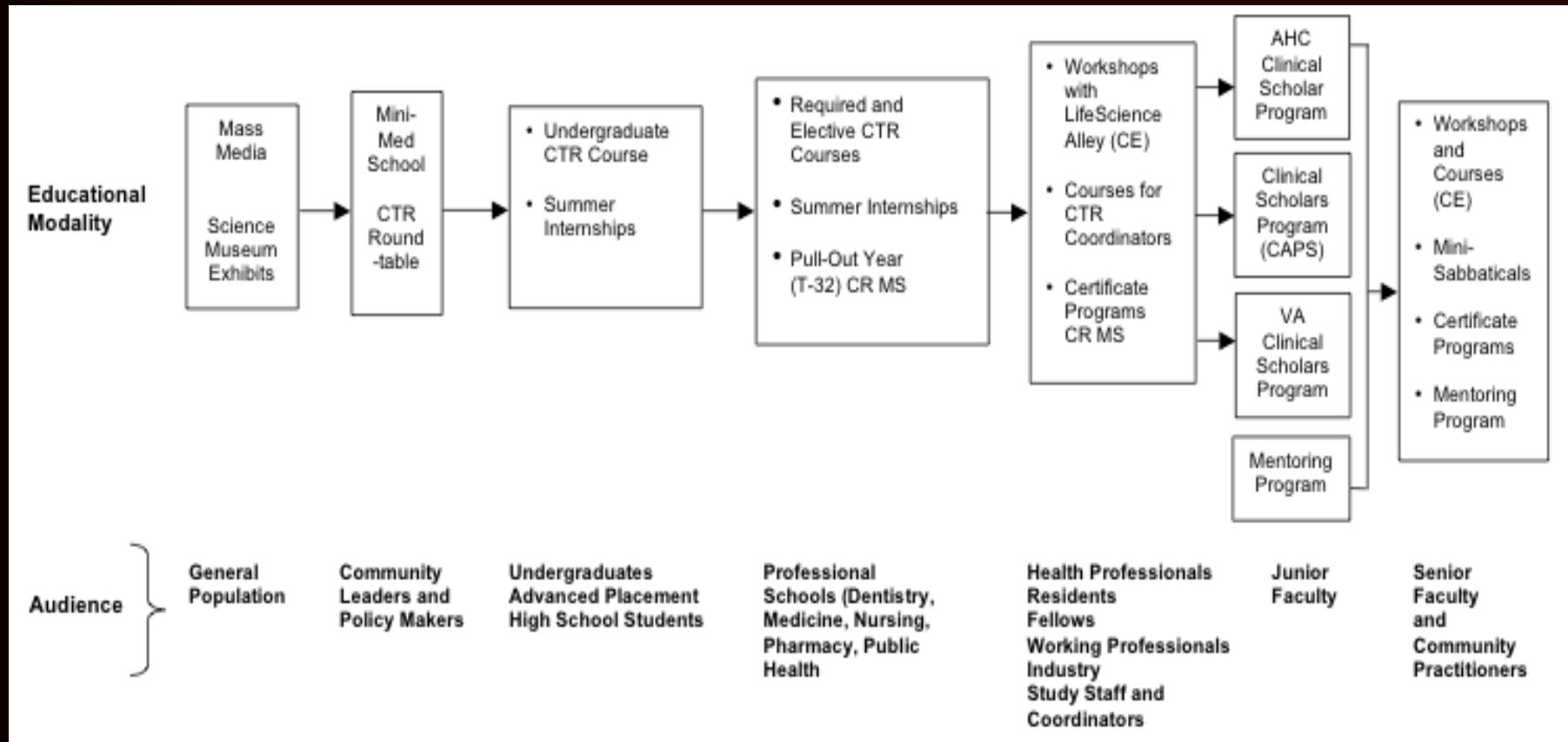


Office of Clinical Research

- Created by Dr. Frank Cerra to advance clinical and translational research at the AHC
- Established in September 2005, under the leadership of Dr. Jasjit S. Ahluwalia, Executive Director
- An educational section of the OCR, under Dr. Russell Luepker, addresses the need to develop a well-trained clinical research work force
- Within the Education Section, a connection to the community is prominent – hence the collaboration with Life Science Alley





Neuromodulation – The First Conference

- A prominent area at the AHC and University campus
- Builds on Dean Powell's integration of neuroscience departments into a new center
- Compliments the neuroscience departments' proposal to University of Minnesota Physicians to develop a Center for Neuromodulation
- Prepares a platform for clinical/translational research between industry leaders and faculty



Neuroscience Interdisciplinary Program in Neuromodulation

- UMP and the Medical School have a leading presence in many areas of neuromodulation – development, clinical characterization, and mechanisms in all 3 clinical neuroscience departments
- The illnesses currently addressed are both common and significant – ranging from TRD to Parkinson's to epilepsy
- Proposal seeks to build a clinical arm of neuromodulation through recruitment and building of infrastructure



Neuromodulation and Psychiatric Illness

- Depression is a common and, at times, debilitating illness that WHO reports as the world's second leading cause of disability. Treatment Resistant Depression (TRD) occurs in as many as 1/3 of patients and new approaches are needed.
- OCD is romanticized on TV, but is disabling for many of the 2% of the US population with the illness. Surgery is still used for some patients.
- Eating disorders (ED), including bulimia nervosa, are common and may have the greatest mortality of psychiatric illness. Work done at the University of Minnesota shows the role of the vagus nerve in this area.

