

RESEARCH INKlings

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MUSC and VA Medical Center received full AAALAC accreditation

On July 9, 2002, the Association for Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care International (AAALAC) made notification that MUSC and the Ralph H. Johnson VA Medical Center have received full accreditation based on a site visit earlier this year. The Council commended the staff for providing and maintaining an exemplary animal care and use program. Particularly noteworthy aspects of the program included: strong administrative support, a knowledgeable IACUC, competent and professional technical and professional animal care and support staff, an outstanding level of husbandry and sanitation, exemplary veterinary care and surgery documentation and facilities, and collegial relationship among the animal support staff, investigators, and the staff of the Ralph H. Johnson VA Medical Center. ▼

On-line registration for Charleston NSF grants conference is now available

The National Science Foundation Regional Grants Conference will be held in Charleston on October 15-16, 2002. Optional FastLane Workshops will take place on October 14. College of Charleston will be hosting this conference.

This conference is designed for faculty and research personnel in the sciences (including social, behavioral, and economic sciences), mathematics, engineering, and technology disciplines as well as sponsored programs administrators. Approximately 25 NSF program officers and administrators will be present to discuss programs within specific directorates and disciplines, cross-disciplinary and special interest programs, proposal preparation, the merit review process, grant award and administration, agency appropriations, and special interest topics.

Optional pre-conference hands-on FastLane workshops (one geared for faculty and research personnel and the other for sponsored programs staff) are planned for Monday, October 14, 2002, on the College of Charleston campus. (FastLane workshop space is limited; early registration is strongly suggested.)

Interested participants can register at <<http://www.nsf.gov/bfa/cpo/policy/regionals.htm>> or <<http://www.orga.cofc.edu/nsf/>> ▼

NIH assigns MUSC entity number for grant submissions

Please take note of the NIH-assigned MUSC entity number: 1576000722A2. This number is to be used on all NIH grant submissions. On the PHS398 face page, the entity number goes in box 9, Applicant Organization. ▼

National Science Foundation releases new grant proposal requirements

NSF's new Grant Proposal Guide (GPG) incorporates revised proposal preparation guidelines relating to the development of the Project Summary and Project Description. The GPG (NSF 02-2) now specifies that Principal Investigators must address both merit review criteria – intellectual merit and broad impact - in separate statements within the one page Project Summary. The GPG also reiterates that broader impacts resulting from the proposed project must be addressed in the Project Description and described as an integral part of the narrative. The broader impacts relate to: advancing discovery and understanding while promoting teaching, training, and learning; broadening the participation of underrepresented groups; enhancing infrastructure for research and education; enhancing scientific and technological understanding through broader dissemination; and societal benefits. Examples illustrating activities likely to demonstrate broader impacts are available electronically at <<http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2002/nsf022/bicexamples.pdf>>

New director takes helm of Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

On July 3 Julie Gerberding was confirmed as director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Dr. Gerberding has been serving as the agency's acting director for science and one of four members of the management team that has been running the agency since Jeffrey Koplan resigned in March. Along with National Center for Infectious Diseases Director James Hughes, Gerberding has headed the agency's terrorism response in addition to her ongoing duties. Public health leaders have praised her grasp of the obstacles facing CDC, including educating first responders and health professionals in preparation for large-scale bioemergencies, whether due to terrorism or natural emergencies. Over the last few months, Gerberding has worked to improve CDC's communication with media to ensure reports on public health threats were accurate, particularly regarding the anthrax bioterrorism events.

The first woman to head the agency, Gerberding joined CDC in 1998 as director of the Division of Healthcare Quality Promotion, where she developed patient safety initiatives and other programs to prevent infections, antimicrobial resistance and medical errors. An infectious disease specialist, she is on leave from the University of California at San Francisco (UCSF), where she is an assistant professor of medicine and epidemiology and biostatistics. She also holds appointment as associate clinical professor of medicine at Emory University in Atlanta.

Gerberding has degrees in chemistry and biology and an M.D. from Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio. She completed her internship and residency in internal medicine at UCSF and earned a Master's in Public Health from UC Berkeley in 1990.

Source: Washington Fax, July 3 2002

Human subjects certification will be unavailable Aug. 15 – Sept. 3

If you or members of your research team need to take the required course in the protection of human subjects, plan ahead! The CITI Course in the Protection of Human Research Subjects – also known as the Miami Course – will undergo a semi-annual upgrade and revision starting Aug 15, 2002. The course site will be unavailable between Thursday 8-15-02 and Monday 9-03-02.

If you are currently enrolled in the course you must finish the course before Aug 15, 2002 or you will be required to re-register after the course comes back on line in September. All quiz scores will be "zeroed" and you will be required to go through the material again at that time.

If you have any questions about the Miami Course, or the scheduled downtime, please contact: Vicki McGillivray (792-4145) or <mcgilliv@musc.edu>. We apologize for the unavoidable disruption and inconvenience.

Annual research report draft is available

The Office of Research and Sponsored Programs has released a draft version of the Annual Research Report. This can be viewed at the ORSP website: <<http://research.musc.edu/orsp/home.htm>>. If you have any corrections, please contact Robbie Lee <leer@musc.edu> or 792-7198. ▼

ORD is developing MUSC peer reviewer database

The Office of Research Development is developing a "peer reviewer database" as a resource to MUSC research faculty and trainees, especially new investigators. Currently the office is gathering information from faculty members who have served or currently serve on peer review panels at the national level. Types of review range from ongoing service as a member of a standing review panel to providing ad hoc and mail reviews. Agencies and sponsors of interest include: the National Institutes of Health, Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, the National Library of Medicine, Health Services and Resources Administration, the Department of Defense, American Cancer Society, American Heart Association, Juvenile Diabetes Association International, National Science Foundation, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and Department of Energy.

The information will be compiled in a searchable database with a user-friendly query interface on the MUSC Research Website, accessible to anyone with an MUSC username and password. This resource should make it possible for people who wish to submit to a specific study section, institute or sponsor to investigate quickly and easily whether colleague(s) at MUSC have had prior experience as a reviewer.

Anyone who has served as a peer reviewer can help initiate the database by emailing the following information to the Office of Research Development at <research@musc.edu>: Individual name, name of sponsor/agency, name of study section or review group (full title), code letters or nickname of review group, dates of service (e.g., 2000-2002), and type of service (regular member, mail reviewer, ad hoc reviewer, etc.).

As always, we welcome your comments and suggestions about this development and any activities of the Office of Research Development! ▼

URC will accept pilot project proposals for December deadline

Interim chief academic officer, Dr. John Raymond, recently announced that sufficient administrative funds have been identified to support intramural research grants for pilot project and seed grants this year. A broadcast message from Dr. Raymond on July 29 stated that the University Research Committee (URC) would invite proposals for small research projects for the December deadline, and possibly for the April 2003 deadline as well.

Previously, university leaders placed a *partial* hold on the University Research Committee (URC) grants program for the current fiscal year. The indication was that pilot grant proposals would not be accepted until further notice, although the URC would continue to receive and review resident research proposals and interim funding ("bridging") proposals.

In addition, Dr. Raymond said that the resident research program would be expanded to encourage non-physician health professionals on clinical tracks to pursue supervised, short-term research projects.

Additional information on the URC funding mechanisms, guidelines, forms, and deadlines can be found at <<http://research.musc.edu/urc/home.htm>>. ▼ ▼

R E S E A R C H
Opportunities & Deadlines

AGING

Title: Age-Related Changes in Tissue Function: Underlying Biological Mechanisms (R01)

Agency: NIH - NIA / National Institute on Aging; NIDCD; NIDCR; and NIDDK

Identification: PA-02-128

Deadline: Ongoing, with deadlines of October 1, February 1, and June 1

An NIH Program Announcement (PA), published in the NIH Guide of July 12, 2002, solicits applications, via the R01 mechanism, to support research that will advance knowledge in the field of aging as related to tissue and organ function. Studies of molecular and cellular changes in multiple organs are of interest, whether they deal with common pathways or contrasting ones in the various organs. All studies under this program must be clearly related to aging. The role of human subjects is to be limited to their use as sources of cells or tissues for in vitro studies. The PA presents a number of somewhat detailed examples of possible topics for study. There are nine contacts designated, representing the following areas of programmatic interest: 1) endocrinology and physiology (NIA); 2) musculoskeletal biology (NIA); 3) cardiovascular biology (NIA); 4) immunology (NIA); 5) geriatrics and clinical gerontology (NIA); 6) neuroscience and neuropsychology of aging (NIA); 7) hearing and communication (NIDCD); 8) epithelial cell regulation and transformation (NIDCR); and 9) diabetes, endocrinology, and metabolic diseases (NIDDK). Frank L. Bellino, Ph.D., of the NIA is the person named under category (1) above. He may be reached at 301/496-6402; FAX: 301/402-0010. ▼

AIDS

Title: Fogarty International Research Collaborations Award for HIV-AIDS (AIDS FIRCA)

Agency: NIH - FIC / Fogarty International Center; NICHD; NIDCR; and NIMH

Identification: PA-02-114

Deadline: Ongoing, with deadlines of September 1, January 2, and May 1

The Fogarty International Center, jointly with the NICHD, the NIDCR, and the NIMH, has an ongoing program, announced in the NIH Guide of June 14, 2002, which funds small grants (R03), limited to three years and to annual budgets of \$32,000 in direct costs to support HIV/AIDS-related collaborative research between U.S. and foreign scientists. All areas of AIDS research are eligible for consideration. The research is to be conducted primarily at the foreign site; funding for travel by the collaborating scientists and associates involved in the research may be included as may consulting fees for the foreign investigator. The U.S. investigator must have significant research support from other NIH awards. The purposes of the program are to extend and enhance the research interests of both partners, to increase the research capacity of the foreign scientist and his/her institution, particularly when the foreign institution is in a developing country. In recognition of this last objective, expenditures for small items of equipment may be budgeted when the foreign site is in such a location. Contact Jeanne McDermott, C.N.M., M.P.H., Ph.D., Division of International Training and Research, FIC, at 301/496-1653; FAX: 301/402-0779; Jennifer S. Read, M.D., M.S., M.P.H., Pediatric, Adolescent and Maternal AIDS Branch, NICHD, at 301/435-6872; FAX: 301/496-8678; or Dr. Willo Pequegnat, Chief, Prevention & Translational Research Program, Division of Mental Disorders, Behavioral Research and AIDS, NIMH, at 301/443-6100; FAX: 301/443-9719. ▼

ALLERGY & IMMUNOLOGY

Title: Primary Immunodeficiency Disease Consortium

Agency: NIH - NIAID / National Institute of Allergy & Infectious Diseases

Identification: RFP: NIH-NIAID-DAIT-03-22

Deadline: January 6, 2003

The NIAID is planning to establish a consortium of investigators to promote and foster excellence in research on primary immunodeficiency diseases. It will do this by awarding a single contract, based on responses to this RFP. The contractor will be

responsible for establishing the consortium via subcontracts with academic and medical institutions, foundations, and industry. The announcement of the RFP, published in the FedBizOpps/Commerce Business Daily of July 17, 2002, describes the consortium and the contract requirements in part as follows: "The Consortium will provide leadership and mentoring; facilitate collaborations; enhance coordination of research efforts; and solicit, peer-review, recommend and award support for small clinical, pre-clinical and basic research projects. In addition, the Consortium will establish and maintain for the life of the contract a Primary Immunodeficiency Diseases Registry. This contract consists of two parts, Part A to establish the Primary Immune Deficiency Consortium and Part B (OPTION) to expand the registry by creating and managing a repository of cell lines derived from registered individuals. Offerors must respond and submit proposals for Part A AND Part B. Proposals for Part A alone or Part B alone will not be reviewed." The full RFP should now or very soon be on the Internet at <http://www.niaid.nih.gov/contract>. Contact Erin Goldstein, Contract Specialist, at 301/496-6423; FAX: 301/480-5253; or Jaqueline Holden, Senior Contracting Officer, at 301/496-7119; FAX: 301/402-0972. ▼

Native Americans, and Native Pacific Islanders.

"o Candidates must be citizens or permanent residents of the United States or Canada."

Some of the upcoming deadlines include those for the following conferences and meeting:

"o Frontiers in Cancer Prevention Research: Genetics, Risk Modeling, and Molecular Targets in Chemoprevention, Behavioral Prevention Research, Clinical Prevention Trials, Science and Public Policy", October 14-18 in Boston, MA; application deadline: August 2, 2002.

"Proteases, Extracellular Matrix, and Cancer", October 9-12 in Hilton Head, SC; application deadline: August 9, 2002.

"Ubiquitination in Normal and Cancer Cells", October 30 - November 3, in Vancouver, BC, Canada; application deadline: August 30, 2002.

"The Role of Telomeres and Telomerase in Cancer", December 7 - 11, in San Francisco, CA; application deadline: October 7, 2002.

Annual Meeting of the AACR, April 5 - 9, 2003, in Toronto, Canada; application deadline - not yet announced, but applications should soon be available.

In general award deadlines are about two months prior to each Special Conference. Contact the AACR Minority Scholar in Cancer Research Award Program at 215/440-9300; FAX: 215/440-9412. ▼

CANCER

Title: AACR Minority Scholar Awards in Cancer Research

Agency: American Association for Cancer Research (AACR)

Identification: none

Deadline: various ones; see below

The AACR, with funds provided by the National Cancer Institute, offers awards to minority scientists at all levels to support their travel, registration, and other expenses when attending the Annual Meetings and Special Conferences of the AACR. The program, including deadlines and instructions for applying, is described on the AACR website at <http://www.aacr.org>. The eligibility is stated as follows:

"o Candidates must be full-time graduate students, medical students, residents, clinical or postdoctoral fellows, or junior faculty members.

"o Only minority groups that have been defined by the National Cancer Institute as being traditionally underrepresented in cancer and biomedical research are eligible for this award, i.e. African Americans, Alaskan Natives, Hispanics,

Title: Preclinical in Vitro and in Vivo Screening Assays

Agency: NIH - NCI / National Cancer Institute

Identification: N01-CN-25026-76

Deadline: November 13, 2002

The NCI is seeking proposals from organizations that have the expertise and facilities to conduct screening of potential cancer preventive agents in mechanism-based in vitro and in vivo assays. The successful proposers will be offered opportunities over a period of five years to test specific agents, selected and possibly furnished by the NCI, for their abilities to inhibit, reverse or delay early carcinogenesis. The announcement of this program was published in the FedBizOpps/Commerce Business Daily of June 19, 2002; the full solicitation is on the Internet at <http://rcb.nci.nih.gov> under "Current Request for Proposals". A synopsis of the required expertise and negotiation process is given in the following brief quotation from the announcement: "Contracts will be awarded to the offerors who demonstrate the ability to conduct mechanism-based in vitro and in vivo bioassays of potential cancer preventive agents. Offerors for these contracts must demonstrate that

they have knowledge of drug development, preferably in disease prevention, and expertise in cell free, cell culture, and molecular assay techniques and in laboratory animal bioassay methods. Offerors need to provide evidence of their own expertise and access to expertise in such areas as molecular biology, pathology, imaging, statistical analyses, analytical chemistry, and other potentially relevant laboratory methodologies. Contracts awarded as a result of this solicitation will be cost-reimbursement completion type, with managed work assignments. Work Assignments will be initiated by the Project Officer, who will forward a request to the Principal Investigator stating the period of performance, specific work to be performed, and the deliverables." Negotiations then take place. It is anticipated that some six awards will be made, each for an overall performance period of five years. It is emphasized that each contractor must offer to conduct both in vitro and in vivo studies. Contact Cynthia D. Washington, Contract Specialist; Prevention, Control and Population Sciences; Research Contracts Branch; at 301/435-3798; FAX: 301/402-8579. ▼

"The purpose of these SPOREs is to: 1) build capacity for interdisciplinary translational research in pancreatic cancer; 2) establish consortia to ensure appropriate access to pancreatic cancer patients and tumor tissues and promote the development of pancreatic cancer family registries; 3) expand the research base in pancreatic cancer via development and improvement of animal and in vitro model systems that can be translated into human disease applications; 4) foster collaborations between basic and clinical or applied research scientists; 5) provide career development opportunities in translational pancreatic cancer research for both junior investigators and established scientists wishing to refocus their careers; and 6) develop extended collaborations in critical areas of research need with laboratory, clinical, and population scientists in the parent and other institutions." Contact the Organ Systems Branch; Office of Centers, Training, and Resources; Office of Deputy Director for Extramural Science; NCI; at 301/496-8528; FAX: 301/402-5319; e-mail: <nciosb-r@mail.nih.gov>. ▼

Title: Specialized Programs of Research Excellence (SPOREs) in Pancreatic Cancer for the Year 2002
Agency: NIH - NCI / National Cancer Institute
Identification: PAR-02-068
Deadline: October 1, 2002, with letter of intent requested by September 1, 2002

Title: Specialized Programs of Research Excellence (SPOREs) in Human Cancer for the Year 2003
Agency: NIH - NCI / National Cancer Institute
Identification: PAR-02-126
Deadline: Various ones; see below

The NCI seeks applications for these SPORE grants (P50) in pancreatic cancer, presently with a single deadline of October 1, 2002. The P50, Specialized Program of Research Excellence, mechanism differs from the traditional Program Project (P01) mechanism in providing support for pilot research projects and a career development component and also in allowing for more flexibility in reacting to new research opportunities as they arise. They are similar in providing for cores and other infrastructure for a group of investigators and in encouraging multidisciplinary and even multi-institutional activities. Grants may request up to five years of support. The general limit for SPOREs is \$1.75 million per year in direct costs, a limit which may be exceeded with these pancreatic cancer SPOREs when there are consortial arrangements. The Program Announcement for this initiative, published in the NIH Guide of March 1, 2002, contains this rather succinct statement of its purpose:

In the NIH Guide of July 12, 2002, the NCI announced three programs to support SPORES, specific for certain organ sites, during the upcoming year. They are the following: 1) Skin and Ovarian Cancer SPOREs - due February 1, 2003; 2) Lymphoma, Leukemia and Gastrointestinal Cancer SPOREs - due June 1, 2003; and 3) Brain, Head and Neck Cancer SPOREs - due October 1, 2003. A letter of intent is requested, in each instance due two months before the application due date. The Program Announcement, mentioned above, describes the programs in some detail, including the purposes, research objectives, support mechanisms, and requirements for submitting an application. The following paragraph is quoted from the stated "Purpose" of the program: "The Organ Systems Branch of the Office of the Deputy Director for Extramural Science at the National Cancer Institute (NCI) invites grant applications (P50) for Specialized Programs of Research Excellence (SPORE) in organ-specific cancers. Applicant institutions must be able to conduct the highest quality, balanced,

translational research on the prevention, etiology, screening, diagnosis, and treatment of a specific organ-site cancer. SPORE applicants are judged on their current and potential ability to move basic research findings into a clinical or population setting or, conversely, to take a finding from the clinic/population and expand upon it in the laboratory. A SPORE must develop and maintain human cancer tissue resources for the particular organ-site that will benefit translational research; foster extended collaborations in critical areas of research need with laboratory and clinical scientists within the institution, as well as in other institutions; and participate with other SPOREs on a regular basis in sharing positive and negative findings, assessing scientific progress in the field, identifying new research opportunities, and promoting Inter-SPORE collaborations. Each SPORE and the 'network' of SPOREs are expected to conduct research that will have the most immediate impact possible on reducing incidence and mortality of human cancer. A SPORE should support a mix of basic and clinical researchers whose formal interactive and collaborative research efforts will result in new approaches for early detection, diagnosis, therapy, prevention and control of human cancer. The SPORE mechanism is not intended to support basic research to the exclusion of clinical research or vice versa." Contact Jorge Gomez, M.D., Ph.D., Chief, Organ Systems Branch, at e-mail address <jg1w@nih.gov>; Jane Fountain, Ph.D., Program Director (Ovarian and Skin SPOREs) at e-mail address <jf227t@nih.gov>; or Peter Ujhazy, M.D., Ph.D., Program Director (Leukemia, Lymphoma, Brain, Gastrointestinal, Head and Neck SPOREs) at e-mail address <pu5s@nih.gov>. ▼

Title: Developmental / Pilot Projects in Cancer Complementary and Alternative Medicine (CAM)
Agency: NIH - NCI / National Cancer Institute; and NCCAM / National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine
Identification: PAR-02-040
Deadline: Ongoing, with remaining deadlines of October 21, 2002, February 20, 2003, June 20, 2003, and October 21, 2003, with letters of intent requested by a deadline set about five weeks prior to that for the application

The NCI's Office of Cancer Complementary and Alternative Medicine and the National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine (NCCAM) support pilot research on complementary and alternative medicine (CAM) as related to cancer,

using the R21 (exploratory/developmental) mechanism, with project periods limited to two years and annual budgets limited to \$150,000 in direct costs. The Program Announcement (PA) for this initiative, published in the NIH Guide of December 21, 2001, indicates that basic and clinical research is sought, with some special emphasis on facilitation of communication and collaboration between CAM practitioners and the established cancer research community, reflecting what seems to be the common use of CAM approaches by cancer patients. The PA identifies the modalities considered appropriate for inclusion in the studies to be supported. They fall within the following general categories: alternative medical systems such as oriental medicine and naturopathy; manipulative and body-based systems including chiropractic and osteopathic therapies; energy therapies broadly interpreted, including therapeutic touch and EM fields; pharmacological or biologically based therapies such as metabolic and immunoaugmentative ones and such things as Coley's toxin and enzyme therapies; herbal medicine, defined as using whole plants or extracts, not purified components except under special circumstances; orthomolecular medicine, the use of nutritional and food supplements in combinations and/or in large dosages; and mind-body medicine, limited to approaches other than those used in the conventional medical setting. Interactions between multiple CAM therapies and between CAM and conventional medical approaches are also appropriate for study. Contact Wendy B. Smith, Ph.D., Office of Cancer Complementary and Alternative Medicine, NCI, at 301/435-7980; FAX: 301/480-0075; or Mary Ann Richardson, DrPH, NCCAM, at 301/402-1272; FAX: 301/480-3621. ▼

Title: The Department of Defense (DOD) Fiscal Year 2002 Chronic Myelogenous Leukemia Research Program
Agency: U.S. Army
Identification: DAMD17-FY02-CMLRP
Deadline: September 18, 2002, with letter of intent requested by September 4, 2002

In the FedBizOpps/Commerce Business Daily of June 13, 2002, the U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command's Office of the Congressionally Directed Medical Research Program (CDMRP) released a brief announcement of its program to support research on myelogenous leukemia. It seeks proposals for projects of up to three years in duration with budgets up to \$750,000 to support research by

independent investigators having the academic rank of assistant professorship or above. The full announcement of this initiative may be found on the CDMRP website at <http://cdmrp.army.mil>. Contact Patricia Evans at 301/619-7354; e-mail: pat.evans@amedd.army.mil.

an "interest form". The Program Office may be contacted at 301/451-6421; FAX: 301/402-2084. Inquiries are best submitted by e-mail to NCS@mail.nih.gov.

CHILD HEALTH

Title: The National Children's Study

Agency: NIH - NICHD / National Institute of Child Health & Human Development; and many other federal agencies including the EPA, the CDC, the AHRQ, and the NIEHS

Identification: none

Deadline: not known

The National Children's Study, which grew out of "The President's Task Force on Environmental Health Risks and Safety Risks to Children" and was authorized by Congress in the "Children's Health Act of 2000", is a large, long-term study of environmental influences on the health and development of children. "Environmental" is interpreted very broadly in this context. The major study will be conducted over a period of about 20 years, ending in 2025 and costing at least \$2 billion. It will follow some 100,000 children from birth to age 21, with some studies starting prior to birth, or even prior to conception. The study is being planned and organized under the primary leadership of the NICHD, with much input from other federal agencies and many other sources. A second major planning meeting was held at the NIH's Bethesda campus in June of this year. It is expected that during the next year the specific hypotheses will be selected for study, and a study design will be developed. During this period studies will also begin to help in developing and evaluating the required methodologies for the long-term studies. The funds for these preliminary studies are likely to be available very soon. The first study sites, ten in number, will be selected in 2004 - 2005; the number may be increased later. A Website for the study is on the Internet at <http://nationalchildrensstudy.gov/about/overview.cfm>. It identifies about 22 working groups now developing topics for study. No specific information on funding mechanisms or deadlines seems to be available at present, but funds are in current budgets and such information should soon be forthcoming. In the meantime contact with personnel of the NICHD and other agencies might be useful. The Website also invites contacts from persons interested in serving on working groups, via

Title: Grant Program

Agency: The Tiger Woods Foundation, Inc.

Identification: none

Deadline: none

The grant program of the Tiger Woods Foundation is described on the Internet at <http://www.twfound.org>. The stated purpose of the Foundation is "...to create or positively influence environments; thereby, enabling children and youth to develop to their maximum potential." One division of its overall program on "Children, Youth, and Families" is that entitled "Child and Family Health & Welfare", with these stated objectives: "Improve and promote infant and maternal health." "Improve child and adolescent health and development." "Prevent substance and alcohol abuse." "Prevent youth and family violence." "Prevent child abuse and neglect." and "Enable children and families to have access to the necessities of life." Support for such activities as these are available: pilot or demonstration projects; expansion of existing successful programs; training programs in the areas of interest; partnerships between public and private sectors; applied research and evaluations; and capital support. Grants are commonly for one year, with exceptions made. Contact Grants at 714/816-1806; FAX: 714/816-1869.

DIABETES, ENDOCRINOLOGY, & METABOLIC DISORDERS

Title: Racial and Ethnic Differences in the Etiology of Type 2 Diabetes in the United States

Agency: NIH - NIDDK / National Institute of Diabetes & Digestive & Kidney Diseases

Identification: PA-02-117

Deadline: Ongoing, with deadlines of October 1, February 1, and June 1

The NIDDK has an ongoing program, described in a Program Announcement (PA) published in the NIH Guide of June 28, 2002, encouraging the submission of R01 or R21 (exploratory/developmental) grant applications to support metabolic and physiologic studies to elucidate mechanisms by which racial and ethnic differences

are manifested in the incidence and pathophysiology of type 2 diabetes in this country. That differences exist among racial and ethnic groups in the prevalence of diabetes 2 has been clearly indicated and mechanisms, including the role of known risk factors, have been suggested. However, there seems to be a need for carefully designed clinical studies to investigate the problem. This PA discusses the nature of studies being sought. The program clearly is seeking studies of biological mechanisms, not behavioral, psychosocial, and socioeconomic factors. The announcement includes many examples of appropriate topics for studies, grouped under these headings: state-of-the-art, hypothesis driven metabolic studies; temporal relationships among factors related to the etiology of type 2 diabetes; studies of beta-cell function; relationships between fat metabolism and insulin resistance; temporal relationships among the changes in metabolic components of the metabolic syndrome, syndrome X; and studies of in utero factors that may relate to subsequent development of type 2 diabetes. It is suggested that investigators might take advantage of existing cohorts involved in ongoing studies of diabetes or other diseases, or that they might enroll appropriate cohorts. The R21 grants under this initiative are limited to two years of support, with annual budgets of up to \$100,000 in direct costs. Contact Barbara Linder, M.D., Ph.D., Division of Diabetes, Endocrinology and Metabolic Diseases, at 301/594-0021; FAX: 301/480-3503. ▼



GASTROENTERIC DISORDERS

Title: Hepatotoxicity Clinical Research Network
Agency: NIH - NIDDK / National Institute of Diabetes & Digestive & Kidney Diseases
Identification: RFA: DK-02-033
Deadline: November 13, 2002, with letter of intent requested by October 11, 2002

The NIDDK is seeking applications for U01 (cooperative agreement) awards which will allow the establishment of a network of five clinical centers (CC) and one data coordinating center (DCC) which will jointly plan and conduct studies of the clinical features and pathogenesis of drug- and toxin-induced liver injury. The collaborative work of this network will be conducted in two phases. A period of up to one year will be devoted to "...the development of working definitions for drug-induced liver toxicity, diagnostic algorithms, a causality assessment protocol or instrument, an overall study design to

identify cases, a manual of operations for clinical data and specimen collection, and an adequate patient consent form." During the second phase of two years the study participants will be identified and studied, data will be collected, as will specimens of serum, DNA, and tissue. The agents of primary interest in the studies are drugs, complementary and alternative medications, and toxins. The DCC will participate cooperatively with the CCs and staff of the NIDDK during all phases of the study and will have primary responsibility for sample size calculations, statistical advice, questionnaires, and data analysis. It will also have special responsibility for overall coordination, preparation of manuscripts and reports, and dissemination of data and samples. Budgets of \$200,000 to \$250,000 per year are deemed appropriate for the CCs, of about \$400,000 for the DCC. A single institution may have both the DCC and a CC; however, there must be separate PIs. Contact Jose Serrano, M.D., Ph.D.; Director, Liver, Biliary and Pancreas Programs; Division of Digestive Diseases and Nutrition; at 301/594-8871; FAX: 301/480-8300. ▼



HEALTH CARE POLICY

Title: Research on Clinical Decision Making
Agency: NIH - NINR / National Institute of Nursing Research
Identification: PA-02-118
Deadline: Ongoing, with deadlines of October 1, February 1, and June 1

The NINR seeks applications for support of research that is directed toward problems of decision making on health care issues. The goal is to increase the body of knowledge that will help patients, families, and the health care professionals in the process of decision-making in the clinical setting. The Program Announcement (PA) for this initiative, published in the NIH Guide of June 28, 2002, explains the background and purpose of the initiative in some detail and gives the following list of examples of areas of research deemed appropriate for this program:

- o Test innovative strategies to help patients of various groups make a decision about a clinical issue with varying risks and benefits to the treatments
- o Test and evaluate the impact of a multidisciplinary approach to risk communication, for example one involving nurses and pharmacists to target prescribers or patients
- o Determine the influence of the health care professional in the decision-making process

"o Explore whether advanced planning of health care influences the type of health care provided to a patient

"o Evaluate different approaches to end of life decision-making besides advance care planning

"o Investigate how various factors (burden, cost, pain, fatigue) influence a clinical decision to initiate and/or discontinue treatment

"o Identify interventions to assist patients and families in clinical decisions at the end-of-life

"o Determine whether and how gender and racial/cultural identity influences the clinical decision-making process

"o Identify and test different communication approaches to promote understanding by the patient of the clinical decision-making process

"o Investigate how the decision maker(s) processes information individually and collaboratively in making decisions

"o Investigate the factors influencing the decision-making process for patients and their families using genetic screening, genetic diagnosis, and genetic therapies

"o Investigate the factors that influence decision making regarding new or experimental diagnostic or therapeutic innovations".

Applications for R01 or R21 (exploratory/developmental) awards may be submitted, the latter limited to two years of support with annual budgets of up to \$150,000 in direct costs. Contact Dr. Karin Helters, Office of Extramural Programs, at 301/594-2177; FAX: 301/480-8260. ▼

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Title: Anti-Malarial Drug Development
Agency: The Medicines for Malaria Venture (MMV)

Identification: none

Deadline: September 30, 2002, for a three-page letter of interest

The MMV is an independent, international foundation, funded by public and philanthropic organizations and the pharmaceutical industry. It operates as part of the WHO's Roll Back Malaria campaign. It is now preparing to fund a third round of projects to be funded in response to the solicitation now on the MMV Website at <<http://www.mmv.org>>. Letters of interest, to be composed in keeping with instructions on the Web, will be the basis for selection of candidate projects to be presented in more detail in writing and at a meeting of the MMV's Expert

Scientific Advisory Committee in Geneva, Switzerland in early 2003. All projects being sought fall broadly in the category of development of new drugs to combat malaria, but there are three specified more restrictive categories, identified as follow: "1. Malaria drug discovery projects that are directed toward the identification of a candidate compound for entry into preclinical development... 2. Malaria drug development projects where a single molecule or combination (perhaps with a back-up compound) has been identified with demonstrably acceptable preclinical properties and a potential for clinical development. .3. Malaria Natural Product projects are also solicited." Each of these categories is discussed in some detail on the aforementioned website which also clearly indicates some underlying principles of importance, to be used in judging applications. For example it is stated that "MMV has identified four basic categories of indications for antimalarial treatment...", which are then stated. The announcement also states that affordability and speed of cure are major factors. Contact Dr. Solomon Nwaka in Geneva at FAX number +41 22 799 4061; e-mail: <applications@mmv.org>. ▼

INSTRUMENTATION & FACILITIES

Title: Research Collaborations to Provide 900 MHz NMR Spectroscopy

Agency: NIH - NIGMS / National Institute of General Medical Sciences

Identification: RFA: GM-03-001

Deadline: November 15, 2002, with letter of intent requested by October 15, 2002

This RFA, published in the NIH Guide of June 28, 2002, is a repeat of one published a year ago. It offers funds, to be awarded as P41 Biotechnology Resource Grants, to support the acquisition and costs of operation of ultra-high field (900 MHz or higher) NMR spectrometers by one to three groups of NIGMS-funded investigators, who will make use of this new technology in novel ways, attacking challenging biological problems. Quoting the RFA, "The projects of the collaborating investigators should be of great biomedical importance, and have pressing need for the new spectrometer, but they need not be closely integrated according to research topic. Rather, the collaborators should identify a common vision of how NMR spectroscopy at ultra-high field can best be applied and advanced to provide a qualitative improvement in our ability to observe and

understand critical biomolecular events." The PI must have major funding from the NIGMS and there must be collaborators funded by that institute, although other collaborators may have funding from other sources for projects consistent with the programmatic interests of the NIGMS. Applications may request up to \$5,000,000 in the first year for acquisition of the NMR spectrometer plus up to \$200,000 in direct costs each year for five years to support its operation. Contact Janna P. Wehrle, Ph.D., Division of Cell Biology and Biophysics, at 301/594-5950; FAX: 301/480-2004. ▼



MISCELLANEOUS

Title: Grants for Research on Shoulder and Elbow Surgery

Agency: American Shoulder and Elbow Surgeons

Identification: none

Deadline: September 16, 2002

The American and Shoulder and Elbow Surgeons offer seed or start-up grants of 12 to 24 months in duration with total budgets of up to \$20,000 to support research projects relevant to the organization's mission. The research must have an orthopaedic surgeon as the PI or co-PI or the investigator, if a Ph.D. or D.V.M., must be affiliated with an orthopaedic department. A fellow or resident is not eligible to apply for the research grant. This program is described on the Internet at <<http://www.ases-assn.org/grant.html>>. Contact the Chair, Research Committee, at 847/698-1629; FAX: 847/823-0536. ▼

Title: A Solicitation of the Public Health Service for Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR)

Contract Proposals

Agency: NIH / National Institutes of Health; and CDC / Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Identification: PHS-2003-1

Deadline: November 8, 2002

The NIH and CDC, the two major components of the USPHS that support extramural research, set aside fixed portions of their research budgets to support research conducted by small businesses which is directed toward the development of products or services of potential commercial value. The USPHS published a notice in the FedBuzOpps/Commerce Business Daily of July 18, 2002 that outlines the funding available under this program

for its many components, the institutes, centers, and offices of the NIH and the programs and centers of the CDC. The proposals being sought will support phase I of SBIR projects which commonly are funded for periods of six to twelve months while the feasibility of a project is investigated. Recall that the PI for all SBIR projects must be an employee of the small business, although an academic scientist may serve as a major consultant, which is often the case. The notice mentioned above contains an amazingly long list, occupying about an entire closely-spaced page, of the research topics deemed suitable, categorized under the various funding components. The full solicitation, RFP, for this initiative should now be on the Internet at <<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/sbir.htm>>. Contact the Office of Extramural Programs, Office of Extramural Research, NIH, at 301/435-2688. ▼

Title: Age-Related Prostate Growth: Biologic Mechanisms (R01 and R21)

Agency: NIH - NIA / National Institute on Aging; NCI; NIDDK; and NIEHS

Identification: PA-02-116

Deadline: Ongoing, with deadlines of October 1, February 1, and June 1

In the NIH Guide of June 28, 2002, the four institutes identified above released a Program Announcement (PA) seeking R01 and R21 (exploratory/developmental) grant applications to support research on mechanisms which may be involved in the increase in prostate size which occurs in middle-aged and older men, and which is accompanied by increases in the incidence and prevalence of prostatic disease. The association of this increase in growth with benign prostatic hypertrophy and prostate cancer is of special interest. The R21 grants under this program are limited to two years of support with annual budgets of up to \$100,000 in direct costs. The PA in the NIH Guide discusses the background of the program, including a reference to the proceedings of an "NIH Workshop on Prostate Growth and Aging", held in 2000. The goals of the program are presented which include the identification of many broad areas of research relevant to the program. The following quotation from the PA gives many examples of research topics considered appropriate to the program:

"Age-dependent changes within specific zones of the human prostate leading to prostate growth or related disease, such as cell proliferation vs death

rates, types of cells (epithelial, stromal, immune, neuroendocrine, etc.) and their interactions, co-existence of normal, hyperplastic and neoplastic cells within these zones, regulation of telomerase, and quantity or function of senescent cells or stem cells

"Age-dependent genetic changes (e.g., oncogene activation, tumor suppressor gene inactivation) or re-expression of fetal developmental genes regulating cellular or mitochondrial function relevant to prostate growth or related disease

"Age-dependent changes in susceptibility to environmental or dietary/nutritional influences to promote prostate growth or related disease, including pre- or neonatal exposure to environmental estrogens and related factors


"Age-dependent changes in circulating or endogenous hormones, their metabolism, receptors, or intracellular signaling systems that affect prostate growth or function, or in sensitivity or altered gene expression of prostatic cells to bioregulatory factors

"Age-dependent changes in content or function of immune cells that may affect prostate growth or disease processes

"Age-dependent changes in prostate growth processes that may lead to increased susceptibility for prostate disease in high-risk populations (e.g., prostate cancer in African American Men)

"Development, verification and utilization of appropriate model systems, including animal models, human organ cultures or xenografts, or intra- or interspecies tissue recombinants

"The NCI has a special interest in receiving applications that address the role of aging tissue microenvironment (stromal cells) in prostate carcinogenesis and/or progression. Examples include (1) studies that focus on tumor cell-stroma interactions in prostate cancer and in progression and metastasis, (2) the role of aging host stroma and the extracellular matrix, and growth factors in the acquisition of androgen independent prostate cancer and in organ specific metastasis, and (3) the cooperation among oncogenes, tumor suppressor genes and growth factors and their interactions with prostatic stromal cells during carcinogenesis and tumor progression."


Contacts are named for each of the participating institutes; for the NIA the contact is Frank Bellino, Ph.D., Biology of Aging Program, at 301/496-6402; FAX: 301/402-0010. 

Autism (CPEA) Data Coordinating Center

Agency: NIH - NICHD / National Institute of Child Health & Human Development; and NIDCD / National institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders

Identification: RFA: HD-02-015

Deadline: November 26, 2002, with letter of intent requested by October 25, 2002

In the NIH Guide of July 12, 2002, the NICHD and NIDCD released an RFA for the support of a single Data Coordinating Center (DCC) under a cooperative agreement (U01) to provide support for an ongoing Network on the Neurobiology and Genetics of Autism: Collaborative Programs of Excellence in Autism. Quoting from the RFA, "A Data Coordinating Center (DCC) will serve to centralize and standardize the data that can be used for addressing collective questions by the Network, as well as serving as a central repository to facilitate the timely ability of the Network to address urgent public health concerns related to autism. Finally, the DCC will put data sets into a common format that will facilitate their use by CPEA member projects and could eventually serve as a data archive to preserve the data for later secondary analyses." It will also function in many of the collaborative activities of the overall network with the PIs of the CPEAs and the staff of the institutes. The network started to function almost five years ago and now consists of ten multidisciplinary projects. The network will be funded for an additional five years; the ongoing and new projects will be conducted in collaboration with the DCC. In addition the NIH expects the DCC to have the capacity to expand to cover a similar role for other potential similar NIH initiatives. The RFA reviews the status of ongoing activities of the CPEA program. It also presents the details of the organizational and administrative features of this collaborative venture. It, of course, clearly states the functions of the DCC. Some of these are management of data and communications; assistance in preparation of publications; logistical support for meetings; on-site monitoring of the multi-site studies; and general management. An award for five years is anticipated, with a budget of up to \$500,000 in direct costs for the first year, \$4.5 million in total costs for the total period. Contact Dr. Lisa Freund, NICHD, at 301/435-6879; FAX: 301/480-0230. 

Title: Network on the Neurobiology and Genetics of Autism: Collaborative Programs of Excellence in

Title: International Research Registry Network

for Sjögren's Syndrome

Agency: NIH - NIDCR / National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research

Identification: BAA: NIDCR-BAA-DR-03-01

Deadline: November 15, 2002, with notification of intent to apply by October 15, 2002

The NIDCR is seeking proposals for the award of a single contract, about five years in duration, to support the establishment of an International Research Registry Network that will: "develop a set of standardized diagnostic criteria for Sjögren's syndrome which will be used for the purpose of research, prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of Sjögren's syndrome, 2) collect, process and store patients' clinical data and specimens, and 3) provide these resources to researchers who are interested in basic and clinical studies on this disease." This BAA, on the Internet at <http://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/funding/inits/baa03-01.htm>, describes the characteristics and functions of the Network in detail. It shall consist of four or five Research Groups located in different countries and one central Coordinating Center, the latter most likely at the U.S. site of a Research Group. Research Groups should be in locations where there are fully or partially characterized populations of Sjögren patients, teams of experienced clinical professionals in the field, facilities such as laboratories and computers, and facilities for storing biospecimens. It is expected that the funding for the total program for five years will be about \$10 million, awarded as the single contract to the U.S. applicant. Contact Kristiane E. Cooper, Contracting Officer, NIH/NHLBI, Contracts Operations Branch, at 301/402-6462; FAX: 301/480-3432. ▼

Title: Centers of Excellence in Complex Biomedical Systems Research (CE/CBSR)

Agency: NIH - NIGMS / National Institute of General Medical Sciences

Identification: RFA: GM-03-002

Deadline: October 11, 2002, with letter of intent requested by September 11, 2002

The NIGMS is seeking applications for grants to support the establishment of two or three new academic Centers of Excellence in Complex Biomedical Systems Research, using the P50 (Specialized Center) grant mechanism. The RFA, published in the NIH Guide of June 28, 2002, includes this statement as part of the "Purpose of this RFA": "The goal of the CE/CBSR program is to promote institutional development of pioneering research and

training programs focused on quantitative, systems level analysis of biological phenomena of biomedical importance within the NIGMS mission." The NIGMS mission is to support basic research in these diverse areas: cell biology; biophysics; genetics; developmental biology; human physiology of trauma, burn, inflammation, and multiorgan failure; and pharmacology and anesthesiology. Applications may request up to five years of support with annual budgets generally limited to \$2,000,000 in direct costs, but with additional amounts being allowed for certain items, including the purchase of expensive instrumentation. In addition to the support of research and its infrastructure, the grants may also be used to support training, workshops, and symposia. Partnering with undergraduate institutions, especially those with substantial numbers of students from underrepresented minority groups, is encouraged. The RFA devotes attention to the need for special research devoted to the many complex systems now ready for systems analysis. Included are many examples of the kinds of systems that could be investigated by the proposed centers, including this brief, rather specific list:

- o Pattern formation and developmental processes in model systems (e.g., *Drosophila*, *C. elegans*, etc.)

- o Metabolic networks and the control of the flux of substrates, intermediates, and products in cell physiology

- o Signaling networks and the regulatory dynamics of cellular processes such as cell cycle and apoptosis, and response to environmental stress

- o Supramolecular machines, such as the replisome, spliceosome, and molecular motor assemblies in cell division and motility

- o Organ system networks involved in multi-organ failure in shock, trauma, and burn injury

- o Genetic architecture of biological complexity related to inherited variation and environmental fluctuations."

Contact James J. Anderson, Ph.D., Center for Bioinformatics and Computational Biology, at 301/594-0943; FAX: 301/480-2228. ▼

Title: FY2003 Basic Research in Support of Future Marine Corps Operations

Agency: Office of Naval Research

Identification: Sol. no.: 02-022

Deadline: October 4, 2002, with white papers due August 30, 2002 (see below)

This solicitation from the ONR seeks proposals from colleges and universities for basic research,

which "...has a high probability of producing fundamentally new discoveries or improvements which could significantly enhance; or conceivably alter current operational practices or concepts..." with respect to Marine Corps operations. The solicitation, on the Internet at http://www.onr.navy.mil/02/BAA/02_022.htm, identifies six technical areas of interest, one of which seems of possible interest to biomedical and/or behavioral scientists, "Human Visual, Auditory or Olfactory Sensory Enhancement." Within this area the solicitation identifies further these targets for investigation: "(1) approaches for enhancing sensory input so as to optimally exploit the physiology of human sensory organs, (2) the ability and limitations of human cognitive processing to productively absorb expanded sensory input, (3) concepts for pre-processing or re-formatting expanded sensory input so as to optimally exploit natural cognitive processing, (4) concepts for merging multiple sensory input to enhance situational awareness, (5) mimicking aspects of expanded sensory capabilities from other species, or (6) novel training methods for achieving optimal sensory performance." White papers will be evaluated as the basis for inviting full proposals. If additional funds become available after the first cycle, with October 4th as the deadline, another round of white papers and proposals may be accepted prior to January 30, 2003. Contact Mr. Clifford W. Anderson at 703/696-4485; e-mail: anderscw@onr.navy.mil. ▼

and gun violence prevention. 4) The "MacArthur Fellows Program" awards five-year unrestricted fellowships to selected individuals from an eclectic array of fields of endeavor, all of whom are selected on the basis of promise to continue highly creative work. The awards of the Foundation are made in a variety of ways, some few through applications for grants in specific competitions. The "Program on Global Security and Sustainability" is now seeking applications under the "Research and Writing Competition", with a deadline of February 3, 2003. The objective is "...to support projects that explore the development of improved understanding of key topics in global security and sustainability, and to broaden and strengthen the community of writers and scholars engaged in work on these issues." Grants of \$75,000 for a single individual or \$100,000 for two collaborators are offered in any relevant academic discipline as long as the project falls in one of these two thematic areas: "Migration and Refugees", which includes impacts on conservation, reproductive health, etc.; and "Technological Change and Global Security and Sustainability." For additional information on this "Research and Writing" initiative contact the Foundation at 312/726-8000; FAX: 312/920-6258; or by e-mail at researchandwriting@macfound.org. The description of the varied programs and funding opportunities of the Foundation in general, including lists of grants awarded and Fellows supported, is on the Internet at <http://www.macfound.org>. ▼

Title: Programs of the MacArthur Foundation
Agency: The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation
Identification: none
Deadline: Various ones, often none; see below

This foundation seeks to improve the human condition through a very broad array of programs, including grants in these four programmatic areas: 1) The "Program on Human and Community Development" is aimed at development of healthy individuals and effective communities. Some more specific areas include public education, early education, juvenile justice, and mental health. 2) The "Program on Global Security and Sustainability" has special programs in Russia and Africa, but also offers more general support in areas including conservation and population and reproductive health. 3) The "General Program" includes areas within the general goals of the Foundation, but not covered by items (1) and (2) above. Two such areas are communications

Title: Research Grants
Agency: The W.M. Keck Foundation
Identification: none
Deadline: Ongoing, with inquiries by November 15 or May 15, with internal deadlines prior to those dates

The W.M. Keck Foundation awards close to \$100 million in grants each year, primarily to support research in medicine, science, and engineering. Its programs are described on the Internet at <http://www.wmkeck.org>. Applications are to be initiated by an inquiry to the Foundation, which must be submitted through a single office that will coordinate all applications from the institution and deal with the Foundation. Interested faculty members should consult the MUSC Office of Research Development when considering an application. The inquiries are used to evaluate the applications and allow for selection of those invited to submit "Phase II" applications. Predominantly undergraduate

institutions may apply for grants in the Science and Engineering and Liberal Arts Programs, whereas medical schools may apply for grants from the Medical Research Program. The Foundation seeks to support research that is innovative and aimed at breakthrough discoveries and new technologies. Requests for more than \$5,000,000 may be entertained as "Special Projects." This quotation from the Website is entitled "Medical Research Program Guidelines and Procedures": "The W.M. Keck Foundation's Medical Research grant program focuses on basic biomedical research in the areas of neuroscience, immunology, molecular genetics, and structural biology. It does not provide support for clinical trials or clinical training. Support for research in hospitals is not currently a focus of this Foundation. Grants may be made for equipment, renovations, fellowships, or to otherwise support basic medical research projects. For information about this program, contact <MedRsch@wmkeck.org>." The contact is Ms. Roxanne Ford, at that e-mail address, or at 213/680-3833. ▼

Title: Programs of the W.K. Kellogg Foundation
Agency: W.K. Kellogg Foundation
Identification: none
Deadline: none

The W.K. Kellogg Foundation currently funds a variety of programs in the U.S. and abroad, particularly in Latin America and Africa. The Foundation's website, at <<http://www.wkkf.org>>, discusses all the programs and identifies many of the ongoing projects. Two major programmatic areas seem particularly relevant to MUSC, "Health" and "Youth & Education/Higher Education." The goal of the "Health" program is to improve health care through systemic changes. The website contains this statement: "The foundation's health programming goal is supported by five strategies to address current health system challenges. The strategies inform policy makers of needed changes in policy and practice; encourage developing models of comprehensive health care based on reorienting services toward public health, primary care and prevention; expand the health work force so that it is more reflective of the racial, ethnic, cultural and geographic makeup of the populations served; increase access, especially for vulnerable populations; and build the capacity of communities to form active partnerships with institutions." The "Youth and

Education" initiative has as its goals supporting healthy infant, child, and youth development by influences on systems that affect children's learning. One strategy employed is that of mobilizing youth, families, and communities to formulate policies which impact learning and achievement for vulnerable children and youth. A second, related strategy, is to forge partnerships between educational institutions and communities to promote learning, academic performance, and workforce preparation. The Foundation has no deadlines and encourages online submission of applications. Contact the Foundation via the website. ▼



NEUROLOGICAL DISORDERS

Title: Fast Track Grants for Parkinson's Disease Research
Agency: The Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research
Identification: none
Deadline: October 11, 2002, with letter of intent required by August 16, 2002

The Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research (MJFF) seeks grant applications for the support of research related to the cure, cause, prevention, or improved treatment of Parkinson's disease (PD) and its complications. Applications may request support for up to two years with annual budgets of up to \$100,000 for direct support of the research plus indirect costs of up to 25% of that amount. The complete description of this program and application forms are available on the MJFF Website at <<http://www.michaeljfox.org>> as is additional information on the Foundation and its other research programs. Contact the MJFF at <research@michaeljfox.org>. ▼

Title: Neurotoxin Exposure Treatment Research Program (NETRP)
Agency: U.S. Army
Identification: DAMD17-BAA-NETRP
Deadline: October 2, 2002, with letter of intent requested by September 4, 2002

The U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command is inviting proposals for contracts or grants to support basic and applied research on neurodegenerative processes related to environmental or neurotoxic insults which may be relevant to military threat agents and military

operational hazards as well as to Parkinson's disease. Evaluations will consider both scientific quality and military relevance. The research sought is that which will be useful in understanding mechanisms which may be relevant to the development of novel therapies; it will not support the testing of new putative drugs per se. The following quotation is from the announcement, available on the Website at <<http://mrmc-www.army.mil>>, categorized under "Research Area Directorates", then "Military Operational Medicine":

"The U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command is soliciting original research proposals, to include but not limited to, studies related to Parkinson's disease and neurodegenerative processes resulting from environmental or neurotoxic insults that:

- "o Identify physiologic, pharmacologic, or molecular mechanisms underlying biologic progression of Parkinson's disease,

- "o Identify mechanisms of co-morbidities of Parkinson's disease in the central nervous system and other organ systems,

- "o Identify standard compensatory mechanisms resulting from alterations in catecholamine metabolism in Parkinson's disease and associated functional outcomes,

- "o Identify mechanisms underlying dyskinesia development during traditional therapy,

- "o Identify toxin specific alterations to dopaminergic synaptic plasticity,

- "o Identify specific glial mechanisms in altering dopaminergic neuronal metabolism or function."

Contact Cheryl Miles at 301/619-7148; e-mail: <cheryl.miles@det.amedd.army.mil>. ▼

TRAINING & CAREER DEVELOPMENT

Title: Mentored Quantitative Research Career Development Award

Agency: NIH - NCI / National Cancer Institute/ NHLBI; NHGRI; NIA; NIAAA; NIAID; NIAMS; NIBIB; NICHD; NIDCD; NIDCR; NIDDK; NIDA; NIEHS; NIGMS; NIMH; and NINDS

Identification: PA-02-127

Deadline: Ongoing, with deadlines of October 1, February 1, and June 1

The array of NIH components identified above seeks to increase the number of investigators with backgrounds in fields of quantitative sciences and engineering conducting research in the biomedical

and behavioral sciences. This program, described in a new Program Announcement (PA) in the NIH Guide of July 12, 2002, offers Mentored Quantitative Research Career Development Awards under the K25 mechanism. It is meant to attract professionals with training and previous experience in quantitative fields into research on questions of health and disease and to support the training needed to enable them to make the change. The PA gives these examples of the scientific and technical backgrounds considered appropriate for persons applying under the program: mathematics, statistics, economics, computer science, imaging science, informatics, physics, chemistry, and engineering. Support is provided for investigators at levels from the postdoctoral to the senior faculty stage. The program is to be tailored to the specific needs and career goals of applicants, but must include a period of supervised study and research complementary to the applicant's previous training and experience. Formal courses should be strongly considered along with the supervised research, taken concurrently or sequentially. The period of the award should be three to five years. Salary support is provided for the awardee based on the base salary of individuals at his or her level in the institution, with some variation in limits from one NIH component to another. The award also provides up to \$40,000 per year in research development support, which includes such things as research expenses, tuition, books, and travel. Salary support for the mentor is not allowed. Under proper circumstances leave periods at a different site from the home base of activities is allowed; this includes foreign sites. Generally at least 75% effort on the activities of the mentored award is required, but, under special circumstances, this requirement may be modified. Contacts are identified for each participating institute. The first named is Maria Agelli, M.D., M.S., Cancer Training Branch, NCI, at 301/496-8085; FAX: 301/402-4472.



Have you visited the Research Bulletin Board?
 The Research Web Site hosts a new bulletin board for the MUSC research community. To visit the bulletin board from the MUSC Main Page, simply click on "Research" on the left side of your screen, then click on "bulletin board" in the top right sector. Feel free to post questions, job openings, inquiries about technologies or expertise. The intent is to provide a site where members of the MUSC research community at all stages of training and in any area of interest can develop a spontaneous forum to exchange information, swap resources or advertise a need or interest.



Institutional Support for Research through the URC (University Research Committee)

The University provides support to strengthen the research capabilities of the faculty and to provide research training for residents interested in pursuing an academic career. Additional information and questions may be directed to the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs at 792-3838.

Deadline, Review and Funding Dates

Institutional Application	Deadline Resident Application	Interim Funding Request	Review Decision by	Funding Dates
April 1	April 15	May 1	June 15	July 1
August 1	August 15	September 1	October 15	December 15
December 1	December 15	January 2	February 15	April 1

NIH STANDARD RECEIPT DATES AND REVIEW AND AWARD CYCLES

TYPES OF APPLICATIONS

Institutional National Research Service Awards*
 All Academic Research Enhancement Awards, except those involving AIDS-related research
 New Research Grants, Conferences, and Research Career Awards.
 All Program Project* and Center Grants* (New & Revised)
 Interactive Research Project Grants
 Competing Continuation, Supplemental, and Revised Grants
 Individual National Research Service Awards (Standard)**
 All AIDS-Related Grants

CYCLE I

January 10
 January 25
 February 1
 February 1
 February 15
 March 1
 April 5
 May 1

CYCLE II

May 10
 May 25
 June 1
 June 1
 June 15
 July 1
 August 5
 September 1

CYCLE III

September 10
 September 25
 October 1
 October 1
 October 15
 November 1
 December 5
 January 2

Scientific Merit Review	June-July	Oct-Nov.	February-March
Advisory Council Review	Sept-Oct	Jan-Feb	May-June
Earliest Project Start Date	December	April	July

*For these specialized grant applications, consult with the appropriate PHS awarding component prior to the preparation of an application, particularly if the requested budget exceeds \$500,000.

**The National Research Service Award Individual Predoctoral Fellowships for Minority Students and Students with Disabilities have special receipt dates.

Receipt Date Policy

- * An unsolicited, investigator-initiated application is considered on time if it is either (1) received by or (2) mailed on or before the published receipt date and a proof of mailing is provided. Proof of timely mailing consists of a legibly dated U.S. Postal Service postmark or a dated receipt from a commercial carrier or the U.S. Postal Service. Private metered postmarks are not acceptable. This policy also applies to unsolicited AIDS-related applications and to AREA applications.
- * Solicited applications and proposals must be received by the specified date. However, an application received after the deadline may be acceptable if it carries a legible proof-of-mailing date assigned by the carrier and the proof-of-mailing is not later than one week prior to the deadline date. Solicited applications include those in response to Requests for Applications (RFAs); Program Announcements (PAs) with specified receipt dates (dates other than the standard ones specified in the chart below), such as Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR), and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR); and Requests for Proposals (RFPs).
- * Starting Nov. 13, 2001, NIH will no longer accept hand-delivered applications to the Center for Scientific Review. All applications and other deliveries to the Center for Scientific Review must either come via courier delivery or the USPS.
- * When a receipt date falls on a weekend or holiday, the receipt date will be the following business day.

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