

# RESEARCH INKlings

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## A permanent director is appointed for NIBIB

The first permanent director of the National Institutes of Health's National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering (NIBIB) has been appointed. Roderic I. Pettigrew MD PhD, fills this position. Dr. Pettigrew is currently professor of radiology, cardiology and bioengineering at Emory University School of Medicine, as well as director of the Emory center for MR Research.

Source: AAMC Stat, May 12, 2002

## The NIH is seeking comment on proposed guidelines for 11 new study sections

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) is seeking comment <[http://www.csr.nih.gov/PSBR/SAIAB/SBIB\\_Intro.htm](http://www.csr.nih.gov/PSBR/SAIAB/SBIB_Intro.htm)> from the research community on proposed guidelines for 11 new study sections that would review grant applications in biomedical imaging and bioengineering. The 11 study sections are part of an overall reorganization <<http://www.csr.nih.gov/PSBR/IRGComments.htm>> plan at the NIH's Center for Scientific Review. The overhaul is intended to keep pace with dramatic progress in biomedical research and a significant increase in interdisciplinary collaborations. The 11 study sections, which would be overseen by the new Surgical Sciences, Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering Integrated Review Group, are:

1. Biomedical Imaging, Contrast Agents, and Probes
2. Biomedical Imaging Technology
3. Medical Imaging
4. Biomedical Computing and Health Informatics
5. Biomedical Sensing, Measurement and Instrumentation
6. Bioengineering, Surgical Sciences, and Technology
7. Surgery, Anesthesiology, and Trauma
8. Surgery, Surgical Critical Care, and Transplantation: Systems and Tissue Aspects of Surgery
9. SBIR Biomedical Imaging
10. SBIR Biomedical Sensing, Measurement and Instrumentation
11. SBIR Bioengineering, Surgical Sciences and Technology

The comment period has expired for the other Integrated Review Group that would oversee biomedical engineering applications. The Bioengineering Sciences Technologies group would manage six study sections <<http://www.csr.nih.gov/PSBR/BST/BST.pdf>>: Gene and Drug Delivery Systems, Multi-Dimensional Imaging, Modeling and Analysis of Biological Systems, Biodata Management and Analysis, Instrumentation and Systems Development, and Biomaterials and Biointerfaces. Please visit <<http://www.csr.nih.gov/review/reorgact.asp>> for more information.


## MUSC IRB is implementing an electronic submission for Exempt Form

Take note: The IRB is implementing electronic submission for the Exempt form. This form and instructions can be found at <<http://research.musc.edu/ori/irb/forms.htm>>

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## Science magazine article reviews the NIH budget “postdoubling”

The Bush administration has proposed a FY 2003 budget of \$27.3 billion, fulfilling a Congressional promise made five years ago to double the National Institutes of Health (NIH) budget appropriations. Science magazine, in the May 24 issue, published an article that discusses possible funding scenarios for the NIH. This interesting article addresses the impact of future funding levels on the nation’s biomedical research efforts. The authors of the article, “The NIH Budget in the ‘Postdoubling’ Era,” include David Korn, M.D. and Stephen Heinig, of the AAMC Division of Biomedical and Health Sciences Research. For more information, visit: <<http://www.sciencemag.org/>> 

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## HHS has issued a new statistical report on women’s health

In 2000, the life expectancy of a woman reached a new record (79.5 years). The average life expectancy of a black woman, however, is five years shorter than that of a white woman, according to a new report from the Department of Health and Human Services. “Women’s Health USA 2002.” This statistical report on the health status of American women shows the disproportionate impact that impact health conditions such as osteoporosis, asthma, and diabetes have on women. Free copies of the report, which is also available online, can be obtained from the Health Resources and Services Administration Information Center, at 1-888-ASK-HRSA. For more information, also visit <<http://mchb.hrsa.gov/data/women.htm>>.


*Source: AAMC Stat, June 3, 2002* 

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## The Casey Foundation has released a 2002 KIDS COUNT data book


The Baltimore-based Annie E. Casey Foundation released a report, 2002 KIDS COUNT Data Book, which reveals results and findings on the welfare to work program. Apparently, although millions of parents have successfully moved from welfare to work in recent years, many are still hard-pressed to provide their children with basic resources. This report identifies ten measures of child well-being. It provides supplemental data on education, health and economic conditions of families, defining “low income” as 150 percent of the federal poverty level (\$26,195 for a family of four in 2000). Data indicated that the well-being of American children has been improved in the 1990s. Using the ten measures, seven states showed improvement, two got worse, and one remained unchanged. Unfortunately, a closer examination reveals significant disparities in such areas as child deaths, teen deaths, and births to teens.

This informative report also contains state by state statistics and findings. To view this information, visit: <<http://www.aecf.org/kidscount/kc2002/>>. 

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## MUSC negotiates a new facilities and administrative cost rate agreement

MUSC recently completed the successful negotiation of a new Facilities and Administration Cost Rate Agreement based on fiscal year 2000 expenses. The rate study revealed no repeat findings from the previous negotiation, which indicates that the current cost accounting practices have improved. The next rate study will be based on our fiscal year end June 30, 2003 cost data, and the proposal will be submitted to the government by December 31, 2003. To insure a repeated success with this process, adherence to the university’s prescribed accounting practices is essential. The Office of Grants and Contracts Accounting will be soon announcing a schedule for a refresher course for MUSC’s cost accounting policies and procedures. This course is highly recommended especially for those who have not attended one in the past. For more information, call the Office of Grants and Contracts Accounting at 792-2850. 

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## Burroughs Wellcome Fund Translational Research Grants

**MUSC INTERNAL DEADLINE: JULY 8, 2002**

The Burroughs Wellcome Fund is accepting applications for its Clinical Scientist Awards in Translational Research. These awards are designed to support established independent physician-scientists who are dedicated to translational research — the two-way transfer between work in the laboratory and the treatment of patients. The program's goal is to foster the development and productivity of established independent physician-scientists who will strengthen translational research, through their own studies as well as their mentoring of physician-scientist trainees.

Up to eight awards will provide \$750,000 each over a period of five years (\$150,000 per year). Candidates must have an M.D. or M.D.-Ph.D. degree and hold an appointment or joint appointment in a subspecialty of clinical medicine. In exceptional circumstances, non-M.D. candidates will be considered if their work is likely to contribute significantly to the clinical enterprise; these candidates must hold an appointment or joint appointment in a clinical department. Candidates must be academic investigators at the late assistant professor or associate professor level, holding a tenure-track or equivalent position, at the time of application. Individuals holding the rank of professor are ineligible.

Candidates must be nominated by accredited degree-granting institutions in the United States or Canada.

**Please see the Burroughs Wellcome Fund Web site for complete program guidelines and nomination procedures.**

**RFP Link:** <[http://www.bwfund.org/translational\\_research.htm](http://www.bwfund.org/translational_research.htm)>

**MUSC may nominate 2 candidates. *Because the number of applicants is restricted, there is an internal deadline of July 8 for nominations at the institutional level.* Internal nominations will consist of:**

1. The candidate's full, updated curriculum vitae; 2. A nominating letter from the department chair or division director that addresses all the points outlined in the BWF "Sponsor's statement of nomination" guidelines (p.2 of brochure); 3. The proposal summary (one page) Nominations (one copy) should be delivered to Peggy Schachte, Office of Research Development, 101 Basic Science Building. ▼

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## Revisions have been made to the NIH PHS 398 form

Due to minor but necessary formatting adjustments, the PHS 398 forms/format pages have been reloaded. For more information on the specific changes and to find the revised forms, visit <<http://grants1.nih.gov/grants/funding/phs398/phs398.html#updates>>. ▼

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## The AHRQ Grants On-Line Database (GOLD) has been expanded

AHRQ launched a new database of grants funded by the Agency. The database currently contains grants funded in FY 2001. Over the next several months, they will be expanding the database to include grants funded in FY 2000 and FY 2002, as well as adding additional search capabilities. Visit <<http://www.gold.ahrq.gov>> to search the database.

Source: AHRQ Electronic Newsletter — June 7, 2002, Issue #60 ▼



## **The National Science Foundation regional grants conference is October 15-16**

The National Science Foundation is holding the regional grants conference, hosted by the College of Charleston, on October 15-16, 2002. This conference will be held at the Mills House Hotel in Charleston. The focus includes science, mathematics, engineering, and technology disciplines, as well as sponsored programs administration. 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.


For more information, go to <http://www.orga.cofc.edu/nsf>. The on-line registration function will be available beginning August 1, 2002. 

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## **NIH has expanded the application numbers to six digits**


A record number of applications are being received by the NIH. The National Cancer Institute (NCI) reached a milestone when the application number CA99999 was assigned in June. Be aware that NCI application numbers will now be assigned six-digit numbers. Please note and make necessary changes in information systems pertaining to this. 

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## **DoD has changed deadline for Neurofibromatosis/Tuberous Sclerosis Program**

The due date for the electronic receipt of proposals for the Neurofibromatosis/Tuberous Sclerosis Research Program has been changed to September 18, 2002. Scientific peer review for these two programs will take place in November, 2002, and programmatic review will take place in January, 2003. Please note there are no changes for other proposal receipt dates in FY02 programs, only for the Neurofibromatosis/Tuberous Sclerosis Research Program. 

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## **A new patient safety award program has been established by NQF and JCAHO**

On May 13, the John M. Eisenberg Patient Safety Awards were established in memory of the respected leader of AHRQ who died in March. This was announced by the National Quality Forum (NQF) and the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO). These awards recognize and praise individuals and health care organizations that have made significant contributions to improving patient safety. As many as four awards may be presented each year, one to recognize individual lifetime achievements in patient safety and three in the categories of advocacy, system innovation, and research. Nomination forms for the awards are available at [www.jcaho.org](http://www.jcaho.org) and [www.qualityforum.org](http://www.qualityforum.org) or from JCAHO's Customer Service Center by calling 630-792-5800. The deadline for receipt of nominations for the 2002 awards is July 15. The 2002 awards will be presented at the NQF annual meeting to be held October 1-2 in Washington. Questions may be e-mailed to [EisenbergAward@jcaho.org](mailto:EisenbergAward@jcaho.org).

Source: *AHRQ Electronic Newsletter* — May 24, 2002 

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# R E S E A R C H

## *Opportunities & Deadlines*

### AIDS

**Title:** HLA Typing and Epitope Mapping Relative to HIV Vaccine Design

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

**Identification:** RFP: NIH-NIAID-DAIDS-03-13

**Deadline:** September 16, 2002

The NIAID, as part of a continuing program directed toward the development and testing of potential vaccines to prevent or treat HIV infections, supports studies of diverse human populations throughout the world aimed at seeking correlations among the genetic characteristics of populations, the immune responses to HIV, and viral subtypes. The present solicitation for contracts, a notice of which was published in the NIH Guide of June 7, 2002, has this stated purpose: "The purpose of this contract is to support acquisition of specific datasets by studying the immune responses of individuals infected with non-clade B HIV-1 at one or more international location(s). These datasets include: a) DNA-based molecular HLA class I and II typing of selected HIV seropositive and seronegative populations at existing or proposed international vaccine trial sites; b) characterization of cellular immune responses and the mapping of CTL epitopes and helper epitopes that are restricted by common HLA types; c) measurement of neutralizing antibody responses; d) identification, characterization and sequencing of circulating HIV-clade variants; and e) establishment of a database of HLA-types, associated T cell epitopes, antibody responses, and viral variants." The contract periods are expected to be five years. The full RFP, on the Internet at <<http://www.niaid.nih.gov/contract>>, contains very specific requirements for the research and for the proposal. Contact Scott Drega, Contract Specialist, at 301/496-6424; FAX: 301/480-5253. ▼

### CHILD HEALTH

**Title:** Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Program

**Agency:** ACF / Administration for Children and Families, Department of Health and Human Services

**Identification:** AFA0002081

**Deadline:** August 15, 2002

The ACF seeks proposals from small businesses for SBIR awards to support the development of certain types of training programs and strategies in specific areas related to child health and well-being. The products or services developed should have potential commercial value. The planning of the programs may involve faculty members of academic institutions, but an employee of the small business must be the principal investigator. An announcement of this program was published in the FedBizOpps/Commerce Business Daily of June 12, 2002. The following are the enumerated topics for which innovative research is sought: "(1) To develop a research-based domestic violence curriculum and training program for head start family workers (ACYF-01-02); (2) Developing innovative models or strategies for improving the head start transportation services, including effective child safety restraint systems (ACYF-02-02); (3) Developing an effective research-based training package and appropriate educational curricula for current and future frontline TANF staff at state and local levels to ensure enhanced outcomes for dependent families with developmentally disabled individuals (ADD-01-02); and (4) Perceptions of child support programs by minority groups, their significance and policy implications (OCSE-01-02)."

The full solicitation is expected to be available on the Internet at the Website <<http://www.fedbizopps.gov>> near the end of June. Contact Karen Chapman, Contract Specialist, at 301/443-7076; FAX: 301/443-2761; or Rosanna Browning, Contracting Officer, at 301/443-6931; FAX: 301/443-2761. ▼

**Title:** Innovation Grants for Research on Hutchinson-Gilford Progeria Syndrome (HGPS)

**Agency:** NIH - NIA / National Institute on Aging; NHLBI; NIDCR; and NICHD

**Identification:** PAR-02-097

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

In the NIH Guide of April 12, 2002, the four institutes identified above announced a new program to encourage the submission of R21 (exploratory/developmental) grant applications to support projects related to the very rare, but devastating syndrome of Hutchinson-Gilford progeria, which is characterized by short stature,

abnormal skeletal and tooth development, scleroderma-like skin changes, and cardiovascular disease resulting in death from heart attacks or stroke at an average age of thirteen years. The following is a quotation from the stated purpose of this program: "Very little research has been done on this syndrome because it is extremely rare (about 1 in 10 million births), and there has been limited access to the patient population. Better understanding of the causes of this syndrome could lead to better insights into mechanisms of both development and aging." One objective is to encourage investigators new to the field to consider applying for funds under this mechanism which does not require preliminary data, only promising ideas. The grants are limited to two years with annual budgets of up to \$100,000 in direct costs. The Program Announcement (PA) presents the following examples of possible research topics:

- "o identify and characterize the genetic locus responsible for HGPS, and determine whether HGPS is caused by a spontaneous autosomal dominant mutation arising in the germline.

- "o generate a mouse model with the HGPS phenotype.

- "o elucidate the possible role, if any, of extracellular matrix metabolism in HGPS.

- "o determine the nature of the vascular occlusion leading to premature myocardial infarctions and strokes.

- "o elucidate the molecular basis for the short stature and the abnormal development of various skeletal and craniofacial structures that occur in HGPS patients, including delayed tooth eruption.

- "o determine which aspects of HGPS, if any, are due to deficiencies in basic processes such as signal transduction, stem cell proliferation and function, cellular damage and repair mechanisms, cell replication, apoptosis, etc.

- "o determine and validate the differences in gene expression between normal and HGPS fibroblasts and/or other tissue types.

- "o establish a registry of clinical data and bank of research resources."

The PA contains much more information about the syndrome, including a few references to the literature. It also identifies and describes sources of fibroblast and lymphoblastoid cell lines from HPGS patients which are available from the Coriell Institute for Medical Research and from the Progeria Research Foundation. Contacts from each of the four institutes are named in the PA. One is Dr. Huber R. Warner, Biology of Aging Program, NIA, at 301/496-4996; FAX: 301/402-0010.




## DENTAL MEDICINE

**Title:** SBIR - Development of New Technologies and Products for Dental Clinical Infection Control

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

**Identification:** PA-02-089

**Deadline:** Ongoing, with deadlines of August 1, December 1, and April 1

The NIDCR encourages applications from small businesses, perhaps using academic consultants, for awards to support the development of new technologies and products, of potential commercial value, which may prove useful in improving infection control in traditional and/or non-traditional dental settings. The support will utilize the Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) award mechanism. A Phase I award may be requested, usually for up to \$100,000 for six months. This may be followed by a Phase II award, when adequate progress is made in phase I. The Phase II awards are usually for about two years, with a budget of up to \$750,000 for that period. The Program Announcement for this initiative, published in the NIH Guide of March 22, 2002, gives the following list of possible areas of emphasis:

- "o Develop low-cost effective devices and methodologies for the prevention and control of biofilms in dental unit water lines,

- "o Develop low-cost effective devices and methodologies for consistent delivery of water with microbial levels below 200 CFUs/ml;

- "o Develop and test new chemical germicides that can be used in settings where there is no potable water, inconsistent electrical power and/or limited sterilization equipment;

- "o Develop improved comfort and safety of eyewear and masks adequate to prevent exposure to infectious agents and particulate debris;

- "o Develop a safety syringe which helps to protect dental healthcare workers from needlestick injuries;

- "o Assess contents of and develop a basic health emergency kit for needlestick injuries;

- "o Develop and test educational programs that can be accessed via the internet and other modes of current technology;

- "o Develop and pilot-test curriculum regarding safety and infection control for oral health care volunteers and others who work in less than ideal conditions."

Contact Kevin S. Hardwick, DDS, MPH, Office of International Health, at 301/594-2765; FAX: 301/402-7033; or Eleni Kousvelari, DDS, DSc, Chief, Cellular and Molecular Biology, Physiology and Biotechnology

Branch, Division of Basic and Translational Sciences,  
at 301/594-2427; e-mail:  
<kousvelari@de45.nidr.nih.gov>

## ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

**Title:** Gulf War Illnesses Research: Low Level Chemical Exposures

**Agency:** U.S. Army

**Identification:** DAMD 17-BAA-GWIR

**Deadline:** August 28, 2002

The U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command is soliciting proposals for research under the Gulf War Illnesses Research (GWIR) program. It seeks proposals each of which should address both of these two specific aspects: "(1) Possible health effect of exposure to low levels of hazardous chemicals, including chemical warfare agents and other substances, and (2) the individual susceptibility of humans to such exposure under environmentally controlled conditions." Proposed research may last for up to four years. The announcement of this program was published in the FedBizOpps/Commerce Business Daily of June 3, 2002. Contact Cheryl Miles at 301/619-7148; e-mail: <cheryl.miles@det.armemil.mil>

## GASTROENTERIC DISORDERS

**Title:** Alcoholic Hepatitis: Cellular and Molecular Mechanisms

**Agency:** NIH - NIAAA / National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism; NIDDK / National Institute of Diabetes, Digestive and Kidney Diseases

**Identification:** PA-02-078

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

The NIAAA and NIDDK encourage the submission of R01, R21 (exploratory/developmental), and R03 (small grant) applications to support studies of the cellular, biochemical, and molecular mechanisms by which chronic ethanol ingestion may lead to alcoholic hepatitis, which in turn may progress to hepatic cirrhosis. Since hepatitis C infections, obesity, and nutritional deficiencies may exacerbate the severity of alcoholic hepatitis, the mechanisms by which their influences are exerted are considered worthwhile topics for study. The program announcement, published in the NIH Guide of March 15, 2002, lists the following as examples of suitable topics for study under this initiative:

"o Investigation of the mechanisms by which Kupffer

cell-generated inflammatory mediators injure endothelial cells and hepatocytes, and stimulate migration of leukocytes into hepatic parenchyma.

"o Elucidation of the mechanisms by which neutrophils, monocytes and lymphocytes are activated in hepatic sinusoids, attach to endothelial cells, and pass through the cell lining into the hepatic parenchyma.

"o Determination of the types and cellular sources of chemokines and adhesion molecules involved in attracting leukocytes and their attachments at different stages of inflammation. Can blocking the synthesis of chemokines and adhesion molecules arrest the inflammatory process?

"o Exploration of the mechanisms of peripheral blood mononuclear cell activation in response to chronic ethanol ingestion.

"o Determination of which cell type neutrophil, monocyte or lymphocyte initiates damage to hepatocytes. Do these cells interact in a coordinated fashion to damage hepatocytes?

"o Investigation of how neutrophils, monocytes and lymphocytes attach to hepatocytes and injure or kill these cells directly.

"o Determination of the subsets of neutrophils, monocytes and lymphocytes whose function may be compromised by ethanol, making the liver more susceptible to injury by alcohol.

"o Elucidation of the internal cellular mechanism(s) hepatocytes may use to cause self-injury.

"o Investigation of whether hepatocyte injury is mediated through increased ethanol metabolism-associated oxidant stress, cytokine-induced cell death, or chemokine-induced recruitment of inflammatory cells.

"o Determination of how alcohol intake increases the severity of HCV-induced liver injury. Investigation of alcohol's effect on promoting viral replication, or inhibiting viral clearance is encouraged.

"o Determination of the impact of HIV infection on the pathogenesis of alcoholic hepatitis.

"o Investigation of the role of nutrient deficiencies in the pathogenesis of alcoholic liver injury, and on the tissue injury repair process.

"o Study the interaction between alcohol and obesity on the progression from injury to repair in hepatocytes.

"o Characterization of biomarkers that can be used for early diagnosis of alcoholic hepatitis.

"o Identify and test potential targets of interventions for the disease, such as inhibition of alcohol-inducible enzymatic activity (i.e. CYP2E1) involved in the generation of free radicals, as well as new anti-inflammatory and antiviral drugs." R21 grants are limited to three years with annual budgets up to

\$100,000 in direct costs. R03s are limited to two years with annual budgets of \$25,000 or \$50,000 in direct costs.

Contact Vishnudutt Purohit, Ph.D., Program Director, Division of Basic Research, NIAAA, at 301/443-2689; FAX: 301/594-0673; or Jose Serrano, M.D., Ph.D., Director, Liver & Biliary and Pancreas Programs, Division of Digestive Diseases and Nutrition, NIDDK, at 301/594-8871; FAX: 301/480-8300. ▾



## HEALTH CARE POLICY

**Title:** Stigma and Global Health Research Program  
**Agency:** NIH - FIC / Fogarty International Center; HRSA / Health Research Services Administration; NCHMD / National Center on Minority Health and Health Disparities; NIGRI; NIAID; NIDCR; NIMH; NINDS; NIAAA; NIDA; OAR / Office of AIDS Research; OBSSR / Office of Behavioral and Social Science Research; ORWH / Office of Research on Women's Health; Canadian Institutes of Health Research and the International Development Research Centre

**Identification:** RFA: TW-03-001

**Deadline:** November 14, 2002, with letter of intent requested y October 14, 2002

This U.S. - Canadian multiagency program has as its purpose "...to stimulate investigator-initiated research on the role of stigma in health, and on how to intervene to prevent or mitigate its negative effects on the health and welfare of individuals, groups and societies world-wide. Collaborative interdisciplinary applications are particularly encouraged." The RFA, published in the NIH Guide of June 21, 2002, and from which the preceding quotation is taken, contains a rather long discussion of the impact of stigma on individuals and groups with respect to health care and biomedical research. It contains references to a few websites for additional information. It also gives a long list of examples of general research topics and some special ones categorized according to the participating sponsors. A small sampling is the following list of research goals relevant to global public health which came originally from a conference:

- "o Further elucidate the etiology of stigma;
- "o Investigate the health consequences of stigma;
- "o Develop methodology for studying stigma with respect to health;
- "o Evaluate and develop new effective interventions to deal with stigma;
- "o Lay the groundwork for guidelines on ethical conduct of studies on stigmatized individuals and groups

who may face further negative effects, including physical violence or social isolation, because of their participation in such studies."

Funding under this program may be via R01 or R21 (exploratory/developmental) grants, the latter limited to three years and \$100,000 per year. Many contacts are identified, reflecting the many participating entities. One is urged to select a contact for a particular research area. The general contact seems to be Kathleen Michels, Ph.D., Program Director, Division of International Training and Research, Fogarty International Center, at 301/435-6031; FAX: 301/402-0779. ▾



## MISCELLANEOUS

**Title:** Identification, Recruitment, Interviewing and Sampling of Control Subjects for Lyme Vaccine Safety Study

**Agency:** FDA - Food & Drug Administration

**Identification:** Sol. no.: 223-02-1433


**Deadline:** Not known

The FDA plans to release an RFP about July 15, 2002 which will seek proposals for a contract to fund a control study center (CSC) which will assist the FDA in identifying and recruiting subjects to serve as controls for a case-control study of the "...possible association between arthritis following LYMERix vaccination and biological factors including genetic factors found to be associated with Treatment Resistant Lyme Arthritis and immune system responses." The contractor will review the necessary records of the FDA, make arrangements for blood samples to be drawn for the study, administer a questionnaire by telephone, and schedule a brief interviews to be conducted by the CSC staff, also by telephone. The brief synopsis of the upcoming RFP, which should be released in the CBD/FedBuzOpps about July 15, 2002, is now available on the Internet at <<http://www.eps.gov/spg/HHS/FDA/DCASC/223-02-1433/SynopsisP.html>>. Contact Paul Scarborough, Contract Specialist, at 301/827-7168; FAX: 301/827-7103. ▾

**Title:** Broad Agency Announcement for Fundamental Technologies for Development of Biomolecular Sensors  
**Agency:** NIH - NCI / National Cancer Institute; and NASA/National Aeronautics and Space Administration  
**Identification:** RFP: N01-CO-27042-32  
**Deadline:** November 1, 2002

The following is a quotation which includes most of an announcement in the FedBuzOpps/Commerce Business Daily of June 25, 2002, and which seeks a variety of innovative technologies for monitoring


substances and processes in living human beings:

"The NCI/NASA Fundamental Technologies for the Development of Biomolecular Sensors Program is soliciting projects to develop the fundamental elements of technology systems or system components that will measure, analyze, and manipulate molecular processes at appropriate scale in the living body. The discoveries from this program are intended to enable the development of complete systems for the in vivo sensing of signatures of pathologic cell types or closely associated microenvironmental factors that provide a seamless interface between sensing/detection and delivery of signature-specific intervention. This is the second solicitation issued in support of this program. In FY2002, the NCI and NASA awarded 13 contracts to initiate the program. Under this solicitation, the NCI and NASA each anticipate awarding an additional 10 - 14 contracts, grants, or cooperative agreements. Specific areas for fundamental technology development targeted by this solicitation include: novel molecular recognition chemistries, materials, chemical composites nanoparticles; nanostructures, agents, and devices suitable for in vivo use; novel strategies for in vivo signal generation and amplification; non-invasive dynamic signal acquisition systems suitable for non-invasive, dynamic signal acquisition from deep tissues and systems of reduced scale suitable for manned space missions, new tools for feature definition and extraction, including computational and mathematical approaches; and new approaches and multifunctional technology platforms to create an interface between in vivo detection and targeted intervention, including nanostructures/devices and novel materials and composites. The detailed Broad Agency Announcement is available on the web site of the Research Contracts Branch, National Cancer Institute at <http://rcb.cancer.gov/rcb-internet/appl/rfp/27042/toc.pdf>." Contact Richard Hartmann, Contracting Officer, at 301/496-8620; FAX: 301/402-6699. 

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**Title:** Women's Health in Sports and Exercise  
**Agency:** NIH - NIAMS / - Nat'l Inst. of Arthritis & Musculoskeletal & Skin Diseases; NICHD / National Institute of Child Health and Human Development; and ORWH / Office of Research on Women's Health  
**Identification:** PA-02-115  
**Deadline:** Ongoing, with deadlines of October 1, February 1, and June 1

The three components of the NIH identified above published a Program Announcement (PA) in the NIH

Guide of June 21, 2002, which seeks R01 applications for a wide range of basic, translational, and patient-oriented clinical studies related to women's health as influenced by sports and exercise. The targets are to obtain new knowledge of the pathophysiology of sports injuries in women, particularly with respect to those injuries for which women are more prone than men; to develop better methods of prevention, rehabilitation, and training strategies for injuries and overuse syndromes in women; and to study problems such as the relationship of disabilities to sports and exercise injuries. The PA discusses the background of this initiative, including some references to papers and Internet sources. It gives a particularly long list of possible research topics under the following categories: Epidemiologic Issues; Neuromuscular Issues; Basic Science Issues; Coaching/Training/Equipment Issues; Surveillance/Patient-Oriented Research Issues; and Social/Psychological Issues. Contact James S. Panagis, MD, MPH, Director, Orthopaedics Program, NIAMS, at 301/594-5055; FAX: 301/480-4543; or Carol Sheredos, PT, MA, Program Support Specialist, National Center for Medical and Rehabilitation Research, NICHD, at 301/402-2242; FAX: 301/402-0832. 

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**Title:** Innovative Technologies for Enhancing Function for Individuals with Disabilities  
**Agency:** NIH - NICHD / National Institute of Child Health & Human Development; NIA; NIBIB; NIDCD; NEI; NIMH; U.S. Department of Education - NIDRR / National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research; and NSF / National Science Foundation  
**Identification:** PA-02-071  
**Deadline:** Ongoing, with deadlines of August 1, December 1, and April 1

The six institutes of the NIH identified above, the NIDRR of the Department of Education, and the NSF, encourage small businesses to submit proposals under the Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and the Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) mechanisms for research on innovative technologies. These programs support research carried out in phases, based on progress assessed along the way, which is directed toward the ultimate development of a product or service which will have commercial value, to be exploited by the small business. Support by the federal agency is initially at a low level for a short period, often six months to two years, followed by a Phase II in which support is more substantial after the concept has shown potential in Phase I. The SBIR projects must have a PI from the small business, but often academic faculty

members participate significantly as consultants. The role of the academician may be more substantial in the case of the STTR program. Details on the general natures of these programs and on these particular ones, including aspects peculiar to some of the participating agencies, are presented in the announcement of this initiative, published in the NIH Guide of March 8, 2002. The research programs sought include those directed toward the development of innovative assistive technologies based on recent developments in biomedical science; evaluations of assistive technologies and development of methods for such assessments; and development of training modules for use in conjunction with assistive technologies. Some examples are given in the program announcement, which also identifies special interests and contacts from the various agencies. The first contact named is Louis Quatrano, Ph.D., Behavioral Sciences and Rehabilitation Engineering, NICHD, at 301/402-4221; FAX: 301/496-0832. ▼

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**Title:** Secondary Analyses in Diabetes, Digestive and Kidney Diseases

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

**Identification:** PA-02-077

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

The NIDDK encourages the submission of applications for R21 (exploratory/developmental) grants, limited to two years of support with annual budgets up to \$100,000 in direct costs, to support secondary analyses of data in any of the Institute's areas of programmatic interest. These areas include "...diabetes and endocrine and metabolic diseases; digestive diseases and nutritional disorders, including obesity and eating disorders; and kidney, urological, and hematological diseases. All data analyses must concern patient oriented or epidemiologic research designed to elucidate the etiology, incidence, prevalence, natural history, pathophysiology, or response to therapy of the above mentioned disorders." Data from any of a wide variety of sources may be used, datasets accessible only to certain investigators or those in the public domain. The populations may be national or regional. Meta analyses of data in the literature may be proposed. Contact, for issues relevant to digestive diseases and nutrition, James E. Everhart, M.D., M.P.H., Chief, Epidemiology and Clinical Trials Branch, Division of Digestive Diseases and Nutrition, at 301/594-8878; FAX: 301/480-8300; for issues related to diabetes, endocrinology, and metabolism, Catherine C. Cowie,

Ph.D., Director, Type 1 Diabetes Clinical Trials Program, Division of Diabetes, Endocrinology, and Metabolism, at 301/594-8804; FAX: 301/480-3503; or, for issues related to kidney, urological, and hematological diseases, Paul W. Eggers, Ph.D., Program Director, Division of Kidney, Urologic, and Hematologic Diseases, at 301/594-8305; FAX: 301/480-3510. ▼

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**Title:** Ancillary Studies on Control Groups in Clinical Trials

**Agency:** NIH - NIDDK / National Institute of Diabetes & Digestive & Kidney Diseases; and NCCAM / National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine

**Identification:** PA-02-094

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

The NIDDK and NCCAM, in the NIH Guide of April 5, 2002, announced a program offering support under the R01 or R21 mechanism for studies of the many aspects of placebo influences on clinical trials, studies which would utilize the patient populations in ongoing or planned clinical trials funded by the NIH. The Program Announcement discusses the background of the initiative, referring to a relevant workshop held in 2000 entitled "The Science of the Placebo: Toward an Interdisciplinary Research Agenda". The report of this workshop is on the Internet at <<http://placebo.nih.gov>>. The announcement identifies the broad program targets as follow: "...the magnitude of placebo effects on various types of outcome measures and at various times after initiation of the intervention; the assessment by potential trial participants or referring physicians of benefits and risks of trial participation; the impact of placebo and active control groups on recruitment; the effectiveness of blinding and the perception of patients and/or investigators on trial group membership and correlation with effect." A list of examples of even more specific research topics is the following:

- studies to determine how potential participants and referring physicians approach risk/benefit assessment;

- studies which address the anticipated impact of the magnitude of the placebo effect on trial design at various time points and with various study instruments;

- the use of control groups in surgical interventions;

- the magnitude of the placebo effect in various diseases;

- the relationship between the size of the placebo effect and outcome measures, especially those which use patient self report of response to therapy;

- the relationship between placebo effect and

regression to the mean;

"- the duration of the placebo effect;

"- patient factors that are predictive of the magnitude of the placebo effect;

"- the effectiveness of blinding and the perception of patients and/or investigators on trial group membership and correlation with effects;

"- studies to determine the most effective placebo and comparison arms in clinical trials that are evaluating the efficacy of complex systems of medicine, holistic therapies, or complementary and alternative medicine (CAM) modalities such as chiropractic and acupuncture."

R21 (exploratory/developmental) grants under this program are limited to two years with annual budgets not to exceed \$125,000 in direct costs. Contact Leroy M. Nyberg, Jr., Ph.D., M.D., Division of Kidney, Urologic, and Hematologic Diseases, NIDDK, at 301/594-7717; FAX: 301/480-3510; or Nancy J. Pearson, Ph.D., Program Officer, NCCAM, at 301/594-0519; FAX: 301/480-3621. ▾

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**Title:** Environmentally Induced Cardiovascular Malformations

**Agency:** NIH - NIEHS / National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences

**Identification:** PA-02-093

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

The NIEHS supports research on environmentally induced cardiovascular malformations in animal models and cell cultures under this program, described in a Program Announcement published in the NIH Guide of April 5, 2002. Funding may involve the R01 or, where no substantial preliminary data has been obtained, the R21 (exploratory/developmental) mechanism. The R21 grants under this initiative are limited to two years with annual budgets of up to \$100,000 in direct costs. The Program Announcement presents the following as the program's purpose:

"The National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) invites applications to study environmental agents that cause cardiovascular malformations (CVMs). The purposes of this Program Announcement (PA) are to stimulate research to characterize environmental agents that cause alterations in the development of the cardiovascular system and thereby lead to cardiovascular malformations, and to investigate the cellular and molecular mechanisms involved in the development of these malformations. The use of mammalian and non-

mammalian animal models, including transgenic and gene knock-out animal models, and of state-of-the-art molecular biology techniques such as genomics and proteomics is encouraged, as well as collaborations between environmental health scientists and developmental biologists, to develop research programs to address the high rate of cardiovascular malformations."

The announcement describes in some detail objectives of the program and gives examples of possible topics for study. It identifies some classes of environmental agents for study, types of systems, and approaches for use in studies. Specifically excluded are human studies except those involving human tissues, screening of large numbers of putative agents, malformations other than those of the heart and major vessels, and dietary manipulations. Contact J. Patrick Mastin, Ph.D., Scientific Program Administrator, Organs and Systems Toxicology Branch, Division of Extramural Research and Training, at 919/541-3289; FAX: 919/541-5064. ▾

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**Title:** Joint DMS/NIGMS Initiative to Support Research in the Area of Mathematical Biology

**Agency:** NIH - NIGMS / National Institute of General Medical Sciences; NSF / National Science Foundation

**Identification:** NOT-GM-02-005 & NSF 02-125

**Deadline:** August 11, 2002; June 30, 2003; and June 30, 2004

The NIGMS and the Division of Mathematical Sciences in the Directorate for Mathematical and Physical Sciences at the NSF anticipate making 20 - 25 awards in each of fiscal years 2003, 2004, and 2005, in response to applications for grants in the area of mathematical biology. The program is described in a joint announcement which is on the NSF website at <<http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2002/nsf02125/nsf02125.htm>> and which was briefly described in the NIH Guide of May 30, 2002. Projects on which mathematical scientists and biologists collaborate are particularly sought. The awards are expected to be for four or five years with annual budgets of \$100,000 to \$400,000 in total costs each. The following examples of appropriate areas of research are presented in the NSF announcement:

"o Evolutionary theory and practice arising from genomics advances;

"o Statistical and other approaches to the discovery of genes contributing to complex behavior, and their environmental interactions;

"o Explanatory and predictive models of the cellular



state;

"o Growth, motility, cell division, membrane trafficking, and other cellular behavior;

"o Metabolic circuitry and dynamics;

"o Signal transduction;

"o Informational molecule dynamics;

"o Design principles and dynamics of pattern formation in development and differentiation;

"o New approaches to the prediction of molecular structure;

"o Improved algorithms for structure determination by x-ray crystallography, NMR and electron microscopy;

"o Simulations of the human systemic responses to burn, trauma and other injury;

"o New approaches to understanding system wide effects of pharmacological agents and anesthetics, and their genetic and environmental modifiers."

Three contacts from each of the agencies are identified in the announcements. They include, for general questions, Dr. Keith N. Crank, Mathematical Sciences, Program Director, NSF, at 703/292-4880; e-mail: <kcrank@nsf.gov>; and, for biological questions, Dr. James Anderson, Program Director, Division of Genetics and Developmental Biology, NIGMS, at 301/594-0943; e-mail: <andersoj@nigms.nih.gov>. Other named contacts appear to have expertise in such areas as computational mathematics, statistics, cell biology, and biophysics. ▼

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**Title:** Various Types of Grants on Integrated Advanced Information Management Systems (IAIMS)

**Agency:** NIH - NLM / National Library of Medicine

**Identification:** PAR-02-079 - Planning Grants; PAR-02-080 - Pilot Study Grants; PAR-02-081 - Operations Grants; PAR-02-082 - Testing and Evaluation Grants; and PAR-02-096 - Fellowship Grants.

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

The NLM offers a variety of grants to health-related institutions for assisting in "...projects to plan, design, test and deploy systems and techniques for integrating data, information and knowledge resources into a comprehensive networked information management system that serves the organization's clinical, research, educational and administrative needs." The program announcements for the first four types of grants are presented in the NIH Guide of March 15, 2002, that for the "Fellowship Grant" in the NIH Guide of April 12, 2002. All grants are aimed at three fundamental "activity areas" described in part as follows:

**"CONTEXT-APPROPRIATE INFORMATION.**

People need usable, useful health information to guide their learning and decisions. Health care, education and research take place today in an information space fed by many sources of digital and printed information, some of which are not owned by an organization. Each organization must implement approaches that select the right subset of information from the available sources, and present it in the way most effective for a given problem and person...

**"STANDARDS-BASED INFORMATION MANAGEMENT.** Integrated access to a collection of information resources and services (one-stop shopping) has always been a core purpose of IAIMS. Effective integration of data, information and knowledge requires common syntax and semantics. Health organizations must use common vocabularies and adopt information standards that support the integration and exchange of health information...

**"DIGITAL LIBRARIES.** The phrase 'digital library' refers to a collection of information, data or knowledge, stored on a computer and accessible across a network to other local and distributed computers..."

Examples of projects appropriate for each category are given in the program announcements. The natures of the types of projects along with the maximum project periods and budgets for each follow:

Planning Grants (PAR-02-079) are to support the development of a written plan of action in one or more of the activity areas described above. Support may be requested for up to two years with annual budgets of up to \$150,000 in direct costs, using the G08 award mechanism. Pilot Study Grants (PAR-02-080) are to support small investigative studies, using the R03 (small grant) mechanism. Applicants may request one or two years of support with annual budgets of up to \$75,000 in direct costs. Operations Grants (PAR-02-081) are to support planning and executing a project for up to four years, with annual budgets of up to \$400,000 in direct costs. A functioning resource should result. Support will be via the G08 award mechanism. Testing and Evaluation Grants (PAR-02-082) have as their purpose the support of projects which deploy and evaluate resources or systems on a limited scale in a real setting, with live users. Projects may be supported for up to two years, with annual budgets of up to \$100,000 in direct costs. The R24 mechanism will be utilized. The Fellowship Grants (PAR-02-096), funded as F38 awards, offer a salary stipend of up to \$50,000 per year for one or two years, while the Fellow pursues formal instruction, mentored research, and completion of a project. The work may be at the home institution or elsewhere and may, but does not have to involve work toward a degree. A sum of \$6,000 per year is awarded

for supplies, travel, and other project and educational expenses. Applicants under all programs are encouraged to consider collaborative projects, involving more than one institution, perhaps of differing types. Involvement by stakeholders in the planning and operational phases is encouraged. For all types of grants contact Valerie Florance, Ph.D., Extramural Programs, at 301/594-4882; FAX: 301/402-2952. ▼

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**Title:** Focused Research Groups in the Mathematical Sciences (FRG)  
**Agency:** NSF - National Science Foundation  
**Identification:** NSF-02-129  
**Deadline:** September 20, 2002, with letter of intent required by August 20, 2002

This program of the NSF's Directorate for Mathematical and Physical Sciences, Division of Mathematical Sciences, each year offers about 15 grants for up to three years with budgets in the range of \$150,000 to \$350,000 per year to support focused research efforts in mathematical sciences. The Program Solicitation, on the NSF Website at <<http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2002/nsf02129/nsf02129.htm>>, contains this synopsis:

"The purpose of the FRG activity is to allow groups of researchers to respond to recognized scientific needs of pressing importance, to take advantage of current scientific opportunities, or to prepare the ground for anticipated significant scientific developments in the mathematical sciences. Groups may include, in addition to mathematical scientists, researchers from other science and engineering disciplines appropriate to the proposed research. The activity will support projects for which the collective effort by a group of researchers is necessary to reach the scientific goals. Projects should be scientifically focused and well-delineated. It is not the intent of this activity to provide general support for infrastructure. Projects should also be timely, limited in duration to up to three years, and substantial in their scope and impact."

This Program Solicitation contains many more details, including examples of the bases on which applications would be judged relevant to the program and of desirable outcomes of projects. Training of graduate students and postdoctoral fellows is considered valuable to the program. Contacts, Program Directors, are identified in various areas of the mathematical sciences. Included are, for the Applied Mathematics Program, Dr. Deborah F. Lockhart at 703/292-4858; e-mail: <[dlockhar@nsf.gov](mailto:dlockhar@nsf.gov)>; and Dr. Henry A. Warchall at 703/292-4861; e-mail: <[hwarcha@nsf.gov](mailto:hwarcha@nsf.gov)>; and,

for the Statistics and Probability Program, Dr. John Stufken at 703/292-4881; e-mail: <[jstufken@nsf.gov](mailto:jstufken@nsf.gov)>.

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**Title:** Data and Applications Security (DAS)  
**Agency:** NSF - National Science Foundation  
**Identification:** NSF-02-132  
**Deadline:** August 21, 2002

The NSF's Directorate for Computer and Information Science and Engineering (CISE), Division of Information and Intelligent Systems, recently announced a program to support about ten grants for research on methods for improving security related to secure database systems, secure digital libraries, secure semantic webs, and data mining for security. The announcement of the program, available on the Internet at <<http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2002/nsf02132/nsf02132.htm>>, presents a list of very specific technical areas in which research is desired. Awards of up to \$100,000 per year and for up to three-year periods are planned. Contact Dr. Bhavani Thuraisingham, Program Director, CISE, at 703/292-8930; e-mail: <[bthurais@nsf.gov](mailto:bthurais@nsf.gov)>. ▼

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**Title:** Grant Programs in Biomedical Engineering  
**Agency:** The Whitaker Foundation  
**Identification:** none  
**Deadline:** Various ones; see below

The Whitaker Foundation, which has made a significant impact on the development of biomedical engineering, decided some ten years ago to phase out its activities and to close in 2006. As that date approaches some of its programs have closed and others are accepting applications for the last time in the very near future, often with grant periods somewhat truncated to meet the target date for phase-out. All the programs are described on the Website of the Foundation at <<http://www.whitaker.org>>. The following is a brief description of the remaining opportunities for funding by this foundation, with remaining deadlines:

Biomedical Engineering Research Grants. These awards are to support research by doctoral level engineers and scientists, including those with health professional degrees, which will help their development as investigators and academicians. The investigators are expected to "...apply or develop substantive engineering methods and techniques in projects that address important medical problems..." and "...to make


substantive contributions to the profession of biomedical engineering." Applicants are generally expected to have tenure track positions and to be early in their academic careers, within eight years of a Ph.D. or six years after completion of residency training. These rules are not rigid, however. The grants are now limited to three years with total funding for the period limited to \$240,000. A preliminary application is required by deadlines of August 1, 2002 or December 2, 2002. Full applications, when invited are then due about two months later.

Graduate Fellowships in Biomedical Engineering. There is a deadline sometime in December 2002 for this program which will award fellowships for up to three years "...to help graduate students prepare for research careers in biomedical engineering."

Industrial Internships in Biomedical Engineering. There is a December 2, 2002 deadline for this program which supports colleges and universities in the U.S. which wish to establish a program "To assist biomedical engineering students who plan careers in industry, and to familiarize companies with the capabilities of biomedical engineering students." These awards are for up to three years with annual budgets of up to \$60,000.

Teaching Materials Used in Biomedical Engineering. This supports the writing of textbooks and the development of interactive instructional materials for educational programs in bioengineering. Textbooks eligible for support are those for core curricula for undergraduates or early stages of graduate education as well as for those in the following specialized topics: biomaterials, biomechanics, biosignals, biosystems, cellular engineering, design for biomedical engineers, life sciences for biomedical engineers, measurements and bioinstrumentation, and transport phenomena in biological systems. Awards for up to \$85,000 for single authors or \$135,000 for multiple ones are available. The remaining deadlines for preliminary applications are October 15, 2002, January 15, 2003, and May 15, 2003.

Conference Awards. The Foundation supports conferences of various types in the field of biomedical engineering, typically with grants of \$5,000 to \$20,000. There are no established deadlines, and it is not clear how much longer applications for this program will be accepted.

For further information on these programs contact Wolf W. von Maltzahn, Ph.D., P.E., at 703/528-2430; e-mail: <[WvonMaltzahn@whitaker.org](mailto:WvonMaltzahn@whitaker.org)>. 

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**Title:** Bone Health and Military Medical Readiness (BHMMR) Research Program

**Agency:** U.S. Army

**Identification:** DAMD 17-BAA-BHMMR

**Deadline:** September 25, 2002, with a required letter of intent by September 4, 2002

The U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command is seeking "...proposals for scientific studies on biomechanical influences on bone, with the goal of preventing stress fractures in initial entry military training and optimizing bone health in young men and women that will protect them against bone diseases later in life." The announcement of this RFP, from the FedBizOpps/Commerce Business Daily of June 26, 2002, continues, stating that "This solicitation provides opportunities for the collection of pilot data to test novel hypotheses for which preliminary data may not be available. Studies sought include but are not limited to: (1) the effect of resistance training on bone structure and function; (2) practical monitoring strategies to identify individuals at risk for stress fracture injury; (3) physiological interactions of bone and muscle turnover and stress fracture risk; (4) effects of high intensity exercise on the bone remodeling process, and (5) interventions designed to optimize bone turnover favoring bone accretion in physically active populations." Although military subjects are not required for a study, its relevance to the military needs must be clear. Collaborations with Department of Defense biomedical researchers is encouraged but not required. Grants are expected to average \$200,000, and about ten are anticipated. Contact Cheryl Miles at 301/619-7148; e-mail: <[cheryl.miles@det.amedd.army.mil](mailto:cheryl.miles@det.amedd.army.mil)>.

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**Title:** U.S. Army Simulation, Training and Instrumentation Command and Army Research Institute Broad Agency Announcement

**Agency:** U.S. Army

**Identification:** N61339-01-R-0023

**Deadline:** Ongoing until March 1, 2006, with no specified deadlines

An announcement in the FedBizOpps/Commerce Business Daily of June 25, 2002 calls attention to the continuing need by two components of the Army for experimental, developmental, and applied research as originally announced in March 2001. The two components are the U.S. Army Simulation, Training and Instrumentation Command (STRICOM) and the Army Research Institute (ARI). The following is a list of the seven major categories of research sought, with some sub-categories of possible interest here at MUSC identified:

1. BATTLEFIELD SIMULATION RESEARCH. Included are medical modeling and simulation and web-based collaborative training.
2. TRAINING DEVICE AND SIMULATOR RESEARCH.
3. INSTRUMENTATION, TARGETS AND THREAT SIMULATORS RESEARCH.
4. TEST AND EVALUATION RESEARCH.
5. WARGAMING RESEARCH.
6. ADDITIONAL RESEARCH INTERESTS.

The full solicitation, BAA, is available on the Internet at <<http://www.stricom.army.mil>>, under "STRICOM Business Opportunities." Contacts specific to areas or research are contained in that document. The general contact is Vanessa Dobson, Contract Specialist, at 407/208-4348; FAX: 407/380-4164.

## REPRODUCTION

**Title:** Vulvodynia - Systematic Epidemiologic, Etiologic or Therapeutic Studies

**Agency:** NIH - NICHD / National Institute of Child Health & Human Development; and ORWH / Office of Research on Women's Health

**Identification:** PA-02-090

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

The NICHD and the ORWH of the NIH have once more announced that they seek R01 grant applications to support basic, clinical, and population-based research on vulvodynia. The Program Announcement, published in the NIH Guide of March 29, 2002, discusses the background for this initiative and gives many examples of possible targets for research. The following stated "Purpose" for the program is an excellent summary:

"The Center for Population Research (CPR) of the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD) invites new and experienced basic scientists, epidemiologists, and clinical investigators to submit research grant applications to further our understanding of the epidemiology, etiology, prevalence, criteria for accurate diagnosis, underlying pathophysiology and pain mechanisms, and treatment strategies for vulvodynia. Research grant applications are encouraged that address preclinical or clinical, biomedical and/or behavioral research that concentrates on studies of relevance to vulvodynia. This solicitation is intended to stimulate and strengthen a multidisciplinary approach to this complex, underresearched area of women's health and form a framework for assessing future research needs. The goal is to build a substantive scientific knowledge base

related to this debilitating condition."

Contact Estella Parrott, M.D., M.P.H., Center for Population Research, NICHD, at 301/496-6515; FAX: 301/496-0962.

## SUBSTANCE ABUSE

**Title:** Clinical Use of Medications to Treat Alcoholism and Alcohol-Related Diseases

**Agency:** NIH - NIAAA / National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism; and NIDA / National Institute on Drug Abuse

**Identification:** PA-02-098

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

The NIAAA and NIDA are encouraging applications for R01, R03 (small grants), and R21 (exploratory/developmental) grants to support human studies on the use of drugs in dealing with all aspects of alcoholism and alcohol-related diseases. The Program Announcement (PA) was published in the NIH Guide of April 12, 2002. It contains the following summary as the state "Purpose" of the initiative:

"The National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA) is seeking research grant applications on the clinical use of medications for alcohol abuse/dependence and alcohol-related diseases. Investigations are needed on pharmacological agents that prevent or reduce alcohol intake by decreasing the alcohol craving/urge to drink and/or alleviating the negative symptoms associated with drinking; e.g., protracted withdrawal syndrome. Applications are also encouraged to develop and test agents for the treatment of acute alcohol withdrawal and alcohol intoxication. Evaluations of pharmacological agents to clinically treat alcohol-induced diseases, such as alcoholic liver diseases, are encouraged as well. In addition, applications can include the utilization of human laboratory paradigms to screen potential medications for subsequent phase 2 and 3 trials as well as to determine the actions of the medications. All applications submitted in response to this program announcement should be conducted in humans."

The PA contains much information on medications used in prevention and treatments related to alcohol. Included are many actual suggestions for projects under the initiative. Small grants, R03s, are limited to two years of support with annual budgets of \$25,000 or \$50,000 in direct costs. R21s are limited to three years with annual budgets not in excess of \$100,000 in direct costs. Contact, for issues related to alcohol research,

Joanne B. Fertig, Ph.D., Division of Clinical and Prevention Research, NIAAA, at 301/443-0635; FAX: 301/443-8774; or, for issues related to research involving drug abuse or drug abusing populations, Jamie Biswas, Ph.D., Chief, Medications Research Grants Branch, Division of Treatment Research & Development, NIDA, at 301/443-8096; FAX: 301/443-9649. ▼

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**Title:** Neuroscience Research on Drug Addiction

**Agency:** NIH - NIDA / National Institute on Drug Abuse

**Identification:** PA-02-085

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

The NIDA has an ongoing program which encourages the submission of R01, R03 (small grant), and R21 (exploratory/developmental grant) applications to support research on the neurobiological mechanisms involved in any aspect of drug abuse and addiction. Of particular interest are studies in new areas of neuroscience. The announcement of this program, published in the NIH Guide of March 22, 2002, lists sixteen broad areas of research, discusses each, presenting examples of topics appropriate for research. The sixteen broad areas are:

"(1) Animal Models to Study the Neurobiology of Addiction

"(2) Vulnerability to Drug Addiction

"(3) Neuroadaptation and Neurotoxicity

"(4) Developmental (Ontogenetic) Neurobiology

"(5) Drugs and Learning, Memory, and Cognition

"(6) Pain and Analgesia

"(7) Drug Abuse Effects on Sensory and Perceptual Systems

"(8) Drugs of Abuse, Sleep and Circadian Rhythms

"(9) Neuropsychopharmacology of Drugs of Abuse

"(10) Drugs of Abuse and CNS Interaction with Other Systems

"(11) Neural Cell Biology

"(12) Computational Neuroscience

"(13) Translational and Technical Research

"(14) Prescription Drug Abuse

"(15) NeuroAIDS

"(16) Clinical (Human) Neuroscience"

Several subcategories are delineated and discussed under the last topic, Human Neuroscience; they are neurobiology of addiction, cognitive neuroscience, neurobiology of treatment, neurodevelopment and maturation, biological etiology, comorbid mental and addictive disorders, effects of stress on brain and behavior, neurobiology of HIV/AIDS, neurobiology of

sleep, and neurobiology of human pain and analgesia. The R03 and R21 mechanisms have limits on the grant periods and budgets which may be obtained from the NIDA contacts with whom plans should be discussed. These contacts are Roger M. Brown, Ph.D., (areas 1 - 15 above), Associate Director for Neuroscience Coordination, Division of Neuroscience and Behavior Research, at 301/443-1887; FAX: 301/594-6043; and Joseph Frascella, Ph.D., (human neuroscience), Chief, Clinical Neurobiology Branch, Division of Treatment Research and Development, at 301/443-4877; FAX: 301/443-6814. ▼

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**Title:** Chemistry, Pharmacology, and Toxicology of Smoked Drugs of Abuse

**Agency:** NIH - NIDA / National Institute on Drug Abuse

**Identification:** PA-02-095

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

The NIDA, in the NIH Guide of April 5, 2002, announced a program encouraging the submission of R01, R03 (small grant), and R21 (exploratory/developmental) applications to support basic studies of the products arising from smoked substances of abuse. A synopsis of the initiative is contained in the "Purpose of This PA [Program Announcement]" which follows:

"The National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) encourages research that will further the understanding of the chemical composition of smoked drugs of abuse, and the resulting pharmacological and toxicological effects associated with such exposure. This PA solicits nonclinical basic research efforts aimed at chemical isolation/identification, metabolic studies, pharmacokinetics, and in vitro cellular and in vivo animal pharmacology/toxicology studies of condensates or extracts of volatile materials and particulates produced in a smoking process. The drugs of abuse of interest include marijuana, tobacco, crack cocaine, heroin, PCP, and methamphetamine hydrochloride."

The PA gives a few examples of topics for study, grouped under methods of identification, biological effects, and mechanisms. Contact Paul Hillery, Ph.D., Division of Neuroscience and Behavioral Research, at 301/443-6275; e-mail: <[ph44x@nih.gov](mailto:ph44x@nih.gov)>. ▼

## TRAINING & CAREER DEVELOPMENT

**Title:** Mentored Clinical Scientists Development Program Award (K12 Award)

**Agency:** NIH - NIA / National Institute on Aging; and NIDA/ National Institute on Drug Abuse

**Identification:** PAR-02-076

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

The NIA and NIDA award training grants entitled "Mentored Clinical Scientist Development Program Awards (MCSDPAs)" to provide research training for clinicians which will lead them to be independent researchers. This program provides funds of up to \$500,000 per year for up to five years to support training periods of three to five years for newly trained clinicians. The training for each candidate will commonly be divided into an initial period in which didactic instruction, tailored to the candidates background and goals, will be provided followed by a period of intensive research which deals with a significant research question and provides the context for broad training in interdisciplinary research, all supervised by a well-established investigator, mentor. The candidate must be a U.S. citizen or national or have permanent residency status. He or she must devote at least 75% effort to the research and training, with other activities limited to clinical and teaching that are relevant to the program. The award provides salary for each research candidate plus some allowance for tuition and fees, travel, and research expenses. The research candidates must have a clinical doctoral degree and have initiated internship and residency training. They must not generally have been PIs on major research grants. Contact Dr. Dorynne Czechowicz, Division of Treatment and Research Development, NIDA, at 301/443-2237; e-mail: <[dczechow@nida.nih.gov](mailto:dczechow@nida.nih.gov)>; or Dr. Robin A Barr, Office of Extramural Affairs, NIA, at 301/496-9322; e-mail: <[rb42h@nih.gov](mailto:rb42h@nih.gov)>. ▼

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**Title:** Biodefense Research Training and Career Development Opportunities - NIAID

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

**Identification:** NOT-AI-02-24

**Deadline:** Various ones. See the notice.

The NIAID, in the NIH Guide of June 7, 2002, published a notice calling attention to its many training and career development programs applicable to bioterrorism, biodefense, and emerging infectious diseases. It referred to two NIAID websites, at <<http://www.niaid.nih.gov/dmid/bioterrorism/biodtraining020529.htm>> and <<http://www.niaid.nih.gov/publications/bioterrorism.htm>> and

invited inquiries directed to one of these contacts: Milton J. Hernández, Ph.D., Director, Office of Special Populations and Research Training, Division of Extramural Activities (DEA), at 301/496-3775; e-mail: <[mh35c@nih.gov](mailto:mh35c@nih.gov)>; Paula Strickland, Ph.D., Assistant Director, Office of Special Populations and Research Training, Division of Extramural Activities (DEA), at 301/435-8563; e-mail: <[ps30f@nih.gov](mailto:ps30f@nih.gov)>; Robert L. Quackenbush, Ph.D., Assistant Director for Research Training Referral and Minority Affairs, Division of Microbiology and Infectious Diseases (DMID), at 301/496-1884; e-mail: <[rqli@nih.gov](mailto:rqli@nih.gov)>; and Lawrence J. Prograis, M.D., Senior Scientist for Special Programs and Bioethics, Division of Allergy, Immunology and Transplantation (DAIT), at 301/496-1886; e-mail: <[lp13r@nih.gov](mailto:lp13r@nih.gov)>. ▼

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**Title:** Career Enhancement Award for Stem Cell Research

**Agency:** NIH - NIDDK / National Institute of Diabetes & Digestive & Kidney Diseases; NIAAA; NIAID; NHLBI; and NINR

**Identification:** PAR-02-069

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

The five institutes identified above offer career enhancement awards (K18) to support short-term, generally six months to one year, research training for investigators who wish to change the direction of their research or to take time from their usual activities to expand their ability to use stem cells, human or animal of embryonic, adult, or cord blood origin, in their research. The investigators availing themselves of this opportunity may be independent junior faculty members or established investigators. The activities under the award may include didactic as well as laboratory work and may be from half-time to full-time. A sponsor with established expertise in stem cell research must oversee the program, which may be in the awardee's home institution or elsewhere, including foreign sites. It is possible for the time of the award to be extended to two years. The award covers the regular salary and fringe benefits adjusted for the percentage effort to be devoted to the program. An additional sum of up to \$50,000 may be requested for research support, tuition and fees, certain types of travel, and consultant fees for the sponsor. The Program Announcement for this initiative was published in the NIH Guide of March 1, 2002. Contacts are named for each participating institute, and the research areas relevant to each institute are listed. The contact for the NIDDK is Judith

Podskalny, Ph.D., at 301/594-8876; e-mail: [www.nsf.gov/home/crssprgm/reu/poc.htm](http://www.nsf.gov/home/crssprgm/reu/poc.htm). [jp53s@nih.gov](mailto:jp53s@nih.gov).

**Title:** Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU)  
**Agency:** NSF - National Science Foundation  
**Identification:** NSF 01-121  
**Deadline:** Ongoing, with a deadline of September 15 for the "REU Site" program, various ones for the "REU Supplement" program.

The NSF, through its various directorates covering biological sciences, computer and information science and engineering, education and human resources, engineering, geosciences, mathematical and physical sciences, and social, behavioral, and economic sciences, as well as polar programs, seeks proposals to offer opportunities for undergraduate students to gain experience working in laboratory and similar sites for limited periods during the summer or regular academic year. Funds for these activities may be provided as supplements for ongoing NSF grants, allowing for one or two students per year to work with a PI, or by a more formalized and extensive program funded to an institution as an "REU Site" award. These latter awards involve programs in a particular scientific field which recruits undergraduate students from within the institution receiving the award and from other institutions. Supplements are arranged via contacting the NSF Program Director for the particular project. The REU Site awards involve an application meeting the deadline stated above. The awards may provide funds for "...such items as faculty salaries and participant stipends, housing, meals, travel, tuition, or laboratory use" although there is variability among the various NSF directorates. In addition to the research experiences it is expected that the students will participate in student-faculty interactions and student-student communications which will facilitate development of collegial relationships. A good research environment is to be provided; training in research ethics may be included. This program, both the supplement and site variants, is described in an NSF Program Announcement on the Internet at <http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2001/nsf01121/nsf01121.txt>. Successful proposals for site awards may be eligible for co-funding with the NSF EPSCoR program. Information on this program, applicable to proposals from South Carolina, and its relevance in this case may be obtained by contacting Dr. Joanne Sullivan in the Office of Research Development at 792-5828. Contacts at the NSF, which are dependent on the scientific area, are given on the Foundation's Website at <http://www.nsf.gov>.

## TRAUMA

**Title:** Research Centers in Trauma, Burn, and Perioperative Injury  
**Agency:** NIH - NIGMS / National Institute of General Medical Sciences  
**Identification:** PAR-02-092  
**Deadline:** Ongoing, with deadlines of October 1, February 1, and June 1; letters of intent are requested by a date four weeks prior to that for the application

The NIGMS supports academic Research Centers in Trauma, Burn, and Perioperative Injury, using the Specialized Center Grant (P50) mechanism, with budgets of about \$1.1 million per year in direct costs and for projects periods of up to five years. This program was re-announced in the NIH Guide of April 5, 2002, with stated goals to

- o "Improve understanding of the biological processes invoked after traumatic or burn injury at all levels, including molecular and cellular, physiological, and multilevel integration of homeostatic loss and recovery
- o Foster translational research, bringing basic scientific observations and principles into the clinical arena and using clinical observations to generate or validate mechanistic hypotheses

- o Foster interactions and communications within institutions and throughout the trauma community by outreach efforts that promote trauma, burn, and perioperative research at the institutional level."

The announcement also makes this brief statement of the characteristics of a proposed center: "Each Research Center must include patient-oriented research; be multidisciplinary in nature; and serve as a focal point, within the institution, for research on trauma, burn, and perioperative injury. We encourage the involvement of scientific expertise and approaches that have not usually been associated with this research. To facilitate communication throughout the community of trauma, burn, and perioperative injury, the Research Centers will become part of a network of researchers and institutions that will meet annually." Centers should include at least three subprojects and an administrative core. Other cores may be supported. The Program Announcement contains much more information on the desirable characteristics of centers and on the overall purposes of this program. Contact Scott Somers, Ph.D., Division of Pharmacology, Physiology, and Biological Chemistry, at 301/594-5560; FAX: 301/480-2802.

**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***

<b>Institutional Application</b>	<b>Deadline Resident Application</b>	<b>Interim Funding Request</b>	<b>Review Decision by</b>	<b>Funding Dates</b>
April 1	April 15	May 1	June 15	July 1
August 1	August 15	September 1	October 15	December 15
December 1	December 2	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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