October 6, 2014

Office of Sponsored Research

RE: Malcolm Feist Partners Across Campuses seed funding program

Dear Director,

The Center for Cardiovascular Diseases and Sciences at LSU Health Sciences Center Shreveport (LSUHSC-S) is pleased to announce the continuation of their program to stimulate the growth of cardiovascular research beyond LSUHSC-S and foster collaboration across institutions in Northwest Louisiana. The mission of the Cardiovascular (CV) Center is to reduce the impact of cardiovascular disease through research and clinical practice. The CV Center recognizes the beneficial role of interdisciplinary partnerships in fostering innovative research. Accordingly, the Malcolm Feist “Partners Across Campuses” seed funding program will provide up to 4 awards of $25,000 each for new, interdisciplinary, collaborative, research projects. A goal of the program is to build a foundation for future competitive extramural support in cardiovascular or cerebrovascular disease.

In collaboration with an LSUHSC-S faculty member, faculty from eligible institutions: LSU Shreveport, Louisiana Tech University, Centenary College, Northwestern State University, Grambling State University, Southern University and University of Louisiana at Monroe are invited to apply. A letter of intent to submit an application in response to the request for proposals (RFP) is due February 6, 2015. Full proposals will be due Friday, April 3rd.

Applications must include a new collaboration between investigators working together on a project that addresses novel research in cardiovascular or cerebrovascular disease. Faculty from all participating institutions and departments are invited to submit proposals for review by a panel of cardiovascular scientists at LSUHSC-S. This program is open to both new investigators and established CV researchers.

The CCDS and LSUHSC-S is committed to multidisciplinary research and will accept applications for the Malcolm Feist PAC program twice a year (Spring and Fall). For questions about the Malcolm Feist PAC program, the RFP or the application, please email ccds@lsuhsc.edu or call 318-675-6021.

Sincerely,

D. Neil Granger, PhD
Chair, Board of Directors
Center for Cardiovascular Diseases and Sciences
Boyd Professor & Head
Department of Molecular & Cellular Physiology
Call for Research Proposals
Letter of Intent Due February 6, 2015

Malcolm Feist
“Partners Across Campuses (PAC)” Seed Program

- 4 awards of $25,000 each for new interdisciplinary collaborative research projects
- Collaboration between a LSUHSC-S faculty member and faculty from another eligible institution: LSU Shreveport, Louisiana Tech University, Centenary College, Northwestern State University, Grambling State University, Southern University or University of Louisiana at Monroe.
- A new collaboration between investigators
- Novel research in cardiovascular or cerebrovascular disease
- Faculty from all departments and divisions are invited to submit proposals
- Open to both new investigators and established researchers
- Full proposals due Friday, April 3, 2015
- Application forms can be found at the Office of Research webpage: http://www.lsuhscshreveport.edu/Research/IntramuralGrants.aspx

For questions and application forms please contact ccds@lsuhsc.edu or call 318-675-6021
Malcolm Feist
Partners Across Campuses (PAC)” Seed Program
Call for Research Proposals Spring 2015
Letter of Intent Due Date: February 6, 2015
Proposals Due April 3, 2015

The mission of the Center for Cardiovascular Diseases and Sciences (CCDS) is to reduce the impact of cardiovascular disease through research and clinical practice. The CCDS recognizes the beneficial role of interdisciplinary partnerships in fostering innovative research. To stimulate the growth of groundbreaking cardiovascular research in Northwest Louisiana and foster collaboration across institutions, the CCDS has created the “Partners Across Campuses” Seed Program (PAC).

The PAC Program will provide up to 4 awards, with a value of up to $25,000 each, for seed funding for new interdisciplinary collaborative research projects. Projects must involve at least 1 full-time (tenured or tenure-track) faculty member at LSU Health Sciences Center Shreveport and at least 1 full-time (tenured or tenure track) faculty member from one of the following institutions: LSU-Shreveport, Louisiana Tech University, Centenary College, Grambling State University, Northwestern State University, Southern University or University of Louisiana at Monroe. Applications must include a new collaboration between investigators from different disciplines working together in a new area of research or scientific inquiry. The goal is to extend CV research beyond LSUHSC-S while building a foundation for future competitive extramural support. Faculty from all participating institutions and departments are invited to submit proposals with a focus on new collaborative research in cardiovascular or cerebrovascular disease. This program is open to both new investigators and established CV researchers.

PROPOSAL GUIDELINES
Innovative research proposals in cardiovascular and cerebrovascular disease are sought under the following guidelines:

1. Novel and collaborative investigative team: Each proposal must be submitted with a Principal Investigator and Co-Principal investigator from different disciplines or departments who have not previously co-authored any publications or had joint funding. One member of the research team must be a full-time tenured or tenure-track faculty member at LSUHSC-S. The other team member must be a full-time tenured or tenure-track faculty member currently employed at LSU-Shreveport, Louisiana Tech University, Centenary College, Grambling State University, Northwestern State University, Southern University Shreveport or University of Louisiana at Monroe. All applications must have a designated PI and a primary performance site.

2. Relevance to Cardiovascular/Cerebrovascular Disease: Each proposal must clearly define the relevance of the proposed research to cardiovascular and/or cerebrovascular diseases. Research proposals from all disciplines will be accepted. However, proposals that do not enhance the mission of the Center for Cardiovascular Diseases and Sciences will not be reviewed.

3. Novel and collaborative scope: Each proposal must identify how the investigation will broaden understanding of research problems, yield fresh or unexpected insights, or increase sophistication of theoretical, methodological, or analytical approaches of two or
more research disciplines. Explain how disparate research approaches and/or methodologies will be integrated to create innovative or enhanced research outcomes.

4. Innovation: Proposals must identify how the research team (PI and Co-PI) represents a new collaboration, and how the proposed project represents new research at LSUHSC-S and/or the partner institution.

5. Sustainability: Each proposal must show clear paths for sustainability by identifying potential future funding and/or how this seed funding can pave the way to position the team to compete for external funding sources and opportunities.

LETTER OF INTENT
A letter of intent (2 page maximum) is requested in order to anticipate the number of proposals and to solicit appropriate reviewers. Submitting a letter of intent is not a binding requirement of full proposal submission. The letter of intent is due February 6, 2015.

LETTER OF INTENT REQUIREMENTS
The letter of intent must be sent as a PDF to: ccds@lsuhsc.edu. Applicants will receive an e-mail response confirming receipt. The letter must include:

1. Proposal Title
2. Principal Investigator and Co-Principal Investigator: Name, Institution, Department and Contact Information.
3. Project/Performance site of proposed research
4. Brief description of the proposal (no more than one page, single spaced).

FULL PROPOSAL DUE DATE
Full proposals are due no later than 4 PM on Friday, April 3, 2015. All proposals must be sent as a single PDF file to the CCDS: ccds@lsuhsc.edu and to the Office of Sponsored Programs and Technology Transfer: grants@lsuhsc.edu. Applicants will receive an e-mail reply confirming receipt of the proposal. Please contact Sara Krzywanski at 318-675-6021 if you do not receive a reply. Proposals submitted must be in final form, with all required components, including documentation of institutional review. PI’s should adhere to the policies and procedures for grant submission established at their institutions.

AWARDS
The PI of proposals selected for funding will be notified by June 1, 2015. Funds will be disbursed on July 1, 2015. Unused funds must be returned to LSUHSC-S. A one-time six month no-cost extension will be considered; rebudgets must be approved by the CCDS.

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS
Successful applicants will be required to submit a final project report, including financial expenditure summary, due at the completion of the contract period. In addition, a follow-up report will be required one year after completion of the project to help assess the efficacy and impact of the PAC program. The PI of the project is responsible for completing the proposed research and required reports. Final reports must be submitted to ccds@lsuhsc.edu.

PROPOSAL PREPARATION INSTRUCTIONS
All proposals should be submitted in PDF format and set to print on standard 8.5 x 11 inch paper, one-sided, with 1-inch margins on all pages. Pages should be single spaced using Arial font size 10 and be numbered consecutively throughout the application. Proposals must include the following components:

1. Cover Pages
• Provide all information requested in the application form
• Signatures of PI, Co-PI, Department Chairs and Institutional Authorized Representatives are required

2. Project Summary of 250 words or less
3. Personnel engaged on project
4. List of suggested reviewers and relevant contact information
5. Project Description
   • No more than 5 pages, single-spaced, including all tables, graphs, charts, figures or images. Each of the elements described under Proposal Guidelines should be addressed in the Project Description. The project should reflect one year of work.

6. Budget and Budget Justification
   • No more than 2 pages
   • Funding will be for up to $25,000 for 1 year
   • Funding is intended to support faculty salary (salaries for LSUHSC-S faculty are excluded), postdoctoral fellows, graduate and undergraduate students and research technicians, as well as direct research expenses. All personnel must be current employees; funds may not be used to hire new employees.
   • The budget may include up to $1,000 for travel to attend a scientific meeting or for travel between participating institutions.
   • Budget elements must be adequately described and itemized.
   • The following expenditures are not allowed: 1. Tuition and fees, 2. Equipment purchase, maintenance, or service, 3. Capital expenses, 4. Construction or renovation, 5. Administrative personnel, 6. Office furniture or routine office equipment (including computers), 7. Consultants, 8. Subawardees, or 9. Indirect costs.

7. Literature Cited
   • Literature cited should be listed in an approved journal format and shall not exceed 2 pages. References are not included in the 5 page Project Description limit.

8. Biographical Sketch
   • The PI and Co-PI should include a Biographical Sketch. Biographical Sketches should be no longer than 2 pages and include only 10 of the most relevant publications.

9. Research Support
   • The PI and Co-PI should submit a list of all sources of research support, both internal and external, either currently active or submitted and under consideration.

10. NOTE: The project must be reviewed and approved by the Office of Research or equivalent institutional signatory for the PI and Co-PI prior to submission to the CCDS.

No additional documentation, appendices, or letters of support should be submitted. Please contact Sara Krzywanski at 318-675-6021 or ccds@lsuhsc.edu for questions regarding your application or this RFP.

EVALUATION CRITERIA
Evaluation of proposals will be performed using the following criteria: (1) Scientific quality of the research project; (2) Expertise and scientific diversity of the research team; (3) Relevance of proposed research to cardiovascular/cerebrovascular disease; (4) Originality and innovativeness of proposed research; and, (5) Evidence of sustainability.
1. **Scientific Quality:** Applications must address a new, important, and relevant research question and propose unique or innovative interdisciplinary solutions. The application must demonstrate a sound technical approach to accomplish the proposed research objectives with clearly defined outcomes.

2. **Research Team:** The PI and Co-Principal investigator(s) must have the expertise and experience needed to accomplish the proposed project. The application should provide specific detail on how the proposal represents a new collaboration. An existing collaboration entails currently or previously funded research in which the PI and Co-PI(s) are co-applicants or co-authors.

3. **Relevance:** All proposals must be relevant to the CCDS mission areas of cardiovascular and cerebrovascular diseases.

4. **Originality:** The proposed research must be unique and innovative. The focus should be on new, emerging areas of research or provide interdisciplinary ways of looking at old research questions.

5. **Sustainability:** The proposal should show likelihood of providing leverage for future extramural funding and/or to continue following the 1-year of financial support provided in this RFP. The application should address how the research will lead to new and varied opportunities for the research team and the CCDS. Specific funding mechanisms and areas of known sponsor interest should be mentioned.

PROPOSALS INVOLVING THE USE OF HUMAN SUBJECTS OR VERTEBRATE ANIMALS

**Use of Human Subjects:** Consistent with Federal policy, all proposals involving the use of human subjects either must have approval from the Institutional Review Board (IRB) before an award is made, or affirm that the IRB has declared the research exempt from continued oversight. Therefore, applicants are strongly encouraged to consult with their institutional IRB during proposal planning and preparation; and prior to proposal submission.

**Use of Vertebrate Animals:** Consistent with Federal policy, proposals involving the use of vertebrate animals for research or education must be approved by the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) before an award can be made. Therefore, applicants are strongly encouraged to consult with their institutional IACUC during proposal planning and preparation.

If the proposal is recommended for funding, a letter of approval for intended human/animal protocols by IRB or IACUC must be provided prior to contract execution. Also, if applicable, any changes in protocols from that contained in the original proposal should also be indicated and accompany the assurance of IRB/IACUC approval. Approval from the IRB or IACUC at both institutions (the PI and Co-PI) is required.

REVIEW COMMITTEE

Proposals will be reviewed by the Board of Directors for the CCDS or a designated review panel of outside experts. Due to the broad nature of this award mechanism, experts in your scientific field of research will not necessarily review the proposal. Therefore, it is in your best interest to define all acronyms, keep jargon to a minimum, and make the proposal understandable to a non-specialist. Names of the reviewers are confidential.