



Research Administration Newsletter

Volume 1, Number 11

April 16, 2007

Doheny News

ARVO Poster Awards

Please note an award will be given to a graduate student and a post-graduate student for the two best ARVO posters. In order to qualify for this award, you must present your poster at the Doheny Pre-ARVO Poster Presentation on Friday, April 27. The winners of these awards will be announced at the Doheny ARVO BBQ at the Bonnet House, in Fort Lauderdale on Tuesday, May 8.

NIH Announcements

FY2007 Funding Strategy

FEBRUARY 18, 2007 - SEPTEMBER 30, 2007

On February 17, 2007, Congress enacted the FY2007 Joint Resolution appropriating the NIH budget and the President signed the bill. For the NEI, the FY2007 appropriation is \$667.1M, a 1% increase from the comparable FY2006 actual level of \$666.0M. The NIH OD has issued NIH central guidance, see <http://grants2.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-07-030.html>.

Research Project Grants—Compared with FY2006, funds available for these grant mechanisms will decline by 0.3%, from \$402.3M to \$401.2M.

Competing awards: The NIH central financial policy calls for the NEI to make 268 competing awards, issued at a level such that the portfolio average total cost does not exceed the FY2006 level of \$360,000. Overall, NEI anticipates that the success rate (number of grants funded divided by the number of grants reviewed) will be approximately 24%, as achieved in FY2006.

The following NIH central guidelines apply, in order of priority: 1. Maintain a number of new investigators comparable to the average of the most recent five years (43 for the NEI). 2. Insure that first time grantees applying for their first renewal who receive review scores near the nominal payline be given appropriate

consideration, with the goal of avoiding serious attrition or closure of new laboratories to the greatest extent possible. 3. Insure to the greatest extent possible that established grantees with insufficient other support who receive review scores near the nominal payline be given appropriate consideration, with the goal of not losing outstanding laboratories.

Continuing awards: Inflationary adjustments will not be made. Awards will be made at 97.1% of the FY2007 committed level. Those provisional awards made at the 80% level will be reissued at the higher levels consistent with this policy. We anticipate that this process will be completed by July.

Other Grant Mechanisms—NIH central guidance gives the NEI flexibility to manage these activities according to our specific scientific and programmatic imperatives, within the parameters of the appropriated funds. The budget for Small Business Innovative Research (R43, R44) and Small Business Technology Transfer (R41 and R42) Awards will decrease 1.9% compared to the FY2006 level (\$16.0M vs. \$16.3M). Funding for Research Centers (P30) will decrease by 4.5%, from \$27.3M in FY2006 to \$26.0M in FY2007. Other Research (K-series, R24, and U10 grants) will increase 2.0% from \$83.6M in FY2006 to \$85.3M in FY2007. And Research Training (F-series and T-series grant mechanisms) will decrease by 0.5%, from \$9.247M in FY2006 to \$9.200M in FY2007.

<http://www.nei.nih.gov/funding/fy2007.asp>

Findings of Scientific Misconduct

Rebecca Uzelmeier (formerly known as Rebecca Marcus), Michigan State University: Based on the report of an investigation by Michigan State University (MSU) and additional information obtained by the Office of Research Integrity (ORI) during its oversight review, ORI found that Rebecca Uzelmeier, former doctoral student, Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology, MSU, committed misconduct in science by intentionally and knowingly fabricating and falsifying data in research supported by National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS), National Institutes of Health (NIH), granted R01 ES02520.

Click link for details:

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-07-059.html>

Administrative Supplements for Making Knockout Mice

In recognition of the research community's keen interest in utilizing knockout mice in their research programs and to optimize usage of the extensive resource now available to the research community, several NIH Institutes and the Trans-NIH KOMP announce an administrative supplement program. This program is designed to enable NIH-funded researchers to request support to have mice of interest made from existing mutant ES cell resources available from both the public and private sectors. This effort will make important mouse mutants available to research laboratories. Additionally, producing the mice in a central facility (as proposed below) will ensure that the mice will be deposited in the KOMP repository, or another NIH supported repository where they will be available to the entire research community.

Click link for details:

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-HG-07-011.html>

Funding Opportunities

2007 NIH Director's New Innovator Award Program (DP2)

The NIH Director's New Innovator Award (http://grants.nih.gov/grants/new_investigators/innovat_or_award/), created this year, addresses two important goals: stimulating highly innovative research and supporting promising new investigators. New investigators may have exceptionally innovative research ideas, but not the required preliminary data to fare well in the traditional peer review system. As part of its commitment to increasing the success of new investigators, NIH has created the NIH Director's New Innovator Award to support exceptionally creative new investigators who propose highly innovative approaches that have the potential to produce an unusually high impact.

Click link for details:

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-RM-07-009.html>

Announcing the NIH Director's Bridge Awards

This announcement describes the NIH Director's Bridge Award (NDBA) designed to provide continued but limited funding for new and established grantees who have submitted a competing renewal grant application that describes a highly meritorious project. The continued

funding will permit the Principal Investigator additional time to strengthen a resubmission application.

Click link for details:

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-07-056.html>

Bioengineering Research Partnerships (BRP)[R01]

Participating Institutes and Centers (ICs) of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) invite applications for R01 awards to support Bioengineering Research Partnerships (BRPs) for basic, applied, and translational multi-disciplinary research that addresses important biological or medical research problems. In the context of this program, a partnership is a multi-disciplinary research team that applies an integrative, systems approach to develop knowledge and/or methods to prevent, detect, diagnose, or treat disease or to understand health and behavior.

Click link for details:

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-07-352.html>

Articles

Most read articles in Ophthalmology, October-December 2006

#20. Chao JR, Khurana RN, Fawzi AA, Reddy HS, Rao NA. Syphilis: reemergence of an old adversary *Ophthalmology*, 2006;113:2074-2079

Most read articles in Progress in Retinal and Eye Research, October – December 2006

#13. Costa RA, Skaf M, Melo LAS, Calucci D, Cardillo JA, Castro JC, Huang D, Wojtkowski M. Retinal assessment using optical coherence tomography • *Prog Retin Eye Res* 2006;25:325-353

#22. Carelli V, Ross-Cisneros FN, Sadun AA. Mitochondrial dysfunction as a cause of optic neuropathies • *Prog Retin Eye Res* 2004;23:53-89.

IOVS most read for February 2007

#1. Shufelt C, Fraser-Bell S, Lai MY, Torres M, Varma R, the Los Angeles Latino Eye Study Group Refractive error, ocular biometry, and lens opalescence in an adult population: the Los Angeles Latino Eye Study. *Invest Ophthalmol Vis Sci* 2005;46:4450-4460.

IOVS most cited through March 1, 2007

#5. Lopez PF, Sippy BD, Lambert HM, Thach AB, Hinton DR Transdifferentiated retinal pigment epithelial cells are immunoreactive for vascular endothelial growth factor in surgically excised age-related macular

degeneration-related choroidal neovascular membranes. *Invest Ophthalmol Vis Sci.* 1996;37:855-868.

Publications

1. Gukasyan HJ, Lee VHL, Simityan H, Kim KJ, **Kannan R**. Thermodynamic stoichiometry of na⁺-coupled glutathione transport. *Can J Physiol Pharmacol* 2006;84:1223-1227.
2. Thomas PB, **Liu YH**, Zhuang FF, Selvam S, Song WS, **Smith RE**, **Trousdale MD**, **Yiu SC**. Identification of Notch-1 expression in the limbal basal epithelium. *Mol Vis* 2007;13:337-344.
3. Lee JG and **Kay EP**. Two populations of p27 use different kinetics to phosphorylate Ser10 and Thr187 via PI 3-kinase in response to FGF-2 stimulation. *J Biol Chem* 2007;282:6444-6454.
4. Young J, Jin M, Barron E, Spee C, Wawrousek EF, **Kannan R**, **Hinton DR**. T1 alpha-Crystallin distribution in retinal pigment epithelium and effect of gene knockouts on sensitivity to oxidative stress. *SO Mol Vis* 2007;13:566-577.

Other Announcements

NSF Audits

NSF has planned to conduct 30 audits this year (as opposed to 6 last year) and the 30 will be selected from the top 100 funded institutions. USC is among the top 100 funded institutions. It has been reported that auditors have contacted PIs directly. It is very important to direct such phone calls to the department financial or business office to coordinate a response. If you have questions please contact Linda Little or Colby Konisek.

Upcoming SBIR/STTR Conference

North Carolina welcomes you to attend the 2007 Spring National Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and the Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) Conference to be held at the Sheraton Imperial Hotel and Convention Center in the beautiful and growing Research Triangle Park, NC.

For newcomers to the SBIR/STTR programs, attendees will learn how to apply and win some of the \$2.2 billion in Federal grants and contracts. For those who have reached the Phase 1 funding milestone, learning will focus on how to stay on track for success and achieve next level funding. For the multiple award winner, details on moving to full commercial operation will cover procurement, business development, technology and financing.

Click link for details:

<http://www.sbtcd.org/events/sbir/2007/>

Other Resources

Office of Research Integrity

The Office of Research Integrity (ORI) promotes integrity in biomedical and behavioral research supported by the U.S. Public Health Service (PHS) at about 4,000 institutions worldwide. ORI monitors institutional investigations of research misconduct and facilitates the responsible conduct of research (RCR) through educational, preventive, and regulatory activities.

Please visit their website for further details on the following topics:

First World Conference on Research Integrity

Teaching Survival Skills and Research Ethics Workshop

Best Practice Guidelines on Publication Ethics: A Publisher's Perspective

Click link for details:

<http://ori.hhs.gov/>

*A copy of each Newsletter is available in Outlook's Public Folder/Research Administration **AND** is now available on the Doheny website, under Research.*

If you would like to be removed from or add someone to the distribution list and/or have any suggestions for this Newsletter, please email Cathy Lee at clee@doheny.org