



Research Administration Newsletter

Volume 1, Number 7

November 15, 2006

Funding Opportunities

NSF Major Research Instrumentation Program (MRI)

Application Receipt Date: January 25, 2007

of Awards/Funds Available: Awards for instrumentation will range from \$100,000 to \$2 million. Proposals requesting less than \$100,000 will be considered only from non-Ph.D. granting organizations or from the disciplines of mathematical science or social, behavioral, and economic science at any eligible organization.

220 awards will be made

Description: The Major Research Instrumentation Program (MRI) is designed to increase access to scientific and engineering equipment for research and research training in our Nation's organizations of higher education, research museums and non-profit research organizations. This program seeks to improve the quality and expand the scope of research and research training in science and engineering, and to foster the integration of research and education by providing instrumentation for research-intensive learning environments. The MRI program encourages the development and acquisition of research instrumentation for shared inter- and/or intra-organizational use and in concert with private sector partners.

The MRI program assists in the acquisition or development of major research instrumentation by organizations that is, in general, too costly for support through other NSF programs. Proposals may be for a single instrument, a large system of instruments, or multiple instruments that share a common or specific research focus.

Click here for details:

<http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2007/nsf07510/nsf07510.htm>

2007 NIH Director's Pioneer Award Program (DP1)

The NDPA is designed to support individual scientists of exceptional creativity who propose pioneering – and possibly transformative - approaches to major

challenges in biomedical and behavioral research. The NDPA is meant to support individuals who intend to pursue new research directions that are not already supported by other mechanisms. The program is not intended simply to expand the funding of persons already well supported for a particular project.

Click link for details:

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-RM-07-005.html>

The Doris Duke Charitable Foundation

ATTENTION ASSISTANT PROFESSORS

Physician-scientists with an MD degree conducting clinical research in any disease area who hold the position of Assistant Professor and were awarded their first full-time faculty position between January 31, 2002 and January 31, 2007 are eligible to apply for the Clinical Scientist Development Award 2007

Up to 17 grants of \$125,000 for direct costs plus an additional \$10,000 for indirect costs for 3 years

KECK may nominate up to 3 candidates for this award

Interested investigators should email their CV, proposal summary and a letter of endorsement from your mentor to Gigi Petrovich at gpetrov@usc.edu, in the Office of Scientific Affairs no later than November 15, 2006

For further details please visit their website at:

<http://www.ddcf.org/page.asp?pagelid=291>

Articles

#5 Most Cited in Invest Ophthalmol Vis Sci for the month of October

PF Lopez, BD Sippy, HM Lambert, AB Thach, **DR Hinton**. 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.* Apr 01, 1996; 37: 855-868.

Publications

1. Wang M, Khurana RN, **Sadda SR**. Central retinal vein occlusion in Wegener's granulomatosis without

retinal vasculitis. *Br J Ophthalmol.* 2006;90:1435-1436.

2. Chao JR, Khurana RN, **Fawzi AA**, Reddy HS, **Rao NA**. Syphilis: reemergence of an old adversary. *Ophthalmology.* 2006;113:2074-2079.
3. Andersson SV, Edman MC, Bekmezian A, Holmberg J, **Mircheff AK**, Peter Gierow J. Characterization of beta-hexosaminidase secretion in rabbit lacrimal gland. *Exp Eye Res.* 2006;83:1081-1088.
4. **Varma R**, Wu J, Chong K, **Azen SP**, Hays RD. Impact of severity and bilaterality of visual impairment on health-related quality of life. *Ophthalmology.* 2006;113:1846-1853.
5. Dobkins KR, Lewis LB, **Fine I**. Integration of one- and two-dimensional motion signals in infants: evidence from the barber-pole illusion. *Vision Res.* 2006;46:3360-3372.
6. de Carvalho RAP, Krausse ML, **Murphree AL**, Schmitt EE, Campochiaro PA, Maumenee IH. Delivery from episcleral explants. *Invest Ophthalmol Vis Sci.* 2006;47:4532-4539.
7. Zhu Z, Rife L, **Yiu S**, **Trousdale MD**, Wasilewski D, Siqueira A, **Smith RE**. Technique for preparation of the corneal endothelium-Descemet membrane complex for transplantation. *Cornea.* 2006;25:705-708.
8. **Weiland JD**, **Humayun MS**. Intraocular retinal prosthesis. Big steps to sight restoration. *IEEE Eng Med Biol Mag.* 2006;25:60-66.
9. Shyu JS, Maia M, **Weiland JD**, O'Hearn T, Chen SJ, Margalit E, Suzuki S, **Humayun MS**. Electrical stimulation in isolated rabbit retina. *IEEE Trans Neural Syst Rehab Eng.* 2006;14:290-298.
10. Khairallah M, **Rao NA**, Ben Yahia S, Zaouali S, Attia S. Pseudotumoral retinal pigment epithelium proliferation in a patient with Vogt-Koyanagi-Harada disease. *Arch Ophthalmol.* 2006;124:1366-1367.
11. Fraunfelder Fw, **Sadun AA**, Wood T. Update on ethambutol optic neuropathy. *Expert Opin Drug Saf.* 2006;5:615-618.

NOON, THURSDAY, December 21, 2006
Mary D. Allen Laboratory for Vision Research
DVRC 4th Floor Conference Room

For more information (also see attached flyer in email):
Cheryl M. Craft, Ph.D.
ccraft@usc.edu or 323-442-6692

New Pending Proposals

- PI:* Amani Fawzi, M.D.
Funding Agency: NIH/NEI R21
Title: Functional Imaging Guided Interventions for Retinal Vein Occlusion
- PI:* Henry K.W. Fong, Ph.D.
Funding Agency: NIH/NEI R01
Title: Extraneous Human RGR Splice Isoform and AMD Disease Retina
- PI:* Alfredo A. Sadun, M.D., Ph.D.
Funding Agency: State of California Department of Health Services
Title: Characterizing the Optic Neuropathy of Alzheimer's Disease

Congratulations!



Congratulations to Shivaram Selvam, Doctorate Student in the Mork Family Department of Chemical Engineering and Materials Science and The Ocular Surface Center, Doheny Eye Institute, for winning 2nd place in the 2nd Annual Mork Family Department Student Research Symposium held on October 20, 2006.

He presented a poster entitled, "Towards a Tissue-Engineered Tear Secretory System: Electrophysiological Activities of Functional Rabbit Lacrimal Gland Acinar Cells Cultured on Polyester Membrane Inserts." His prize included a plaque and a \$500 check.

Doheny News

ATTENTION SPECIAL SEMINAR

Signaling Mechanisms of Retinal Ganglion Cell Death in Optic Neuropathies

Neeraj Agarwal, PhD

Associate Professor of Cell Biology & Genetics
University of North Texas Health Science Center
Fort Worth, TX 76107

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NIH Announcements

Change in Standard Receipt Dates for NIH/AHRQ/NIOSH Beginning in January 2007

The purpose of this Notice is to inform the research community of a change in standard receipt dates for grant applications submitted to NIH, AHRQ and NIOSH. The new receipt dates will be effective as of January 2007 and will apply to both paper and electronic applications.

Click link for details:

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-07-001.html>

Request for Information (RFI): Possible Page Limit Reduction For the Research Plan Section of the Research Project Grant (R01) Application

This is a time-sensitive Request for Information (RFI) regarding a possible change in the current 25-page limit of the Research Plan section (PHS 398 Sections A-D) of the NIH Research Project Grant (R01) application. Comments will be considered from interested applicants, reviewers and other members of the research community.

Click link for details:

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-07-014.html>

Guidance to Applicant Organizations about Registering Research Fellows in the eRA Commons

The purpose of this Notice is to remind applicant organizations that they should register in the eRA Commons any individual research fellows who are submitting applications to NIH and AHRQ. When registering, the fellow should be given the role of PI. There has been some reluctance in applicant organizations to create eRA Commons accounts with the PI role for research fellows. We would like to clarify that designating the PI role in the eRA Commons for an individual does not bestow on them any special status. It is merely the name of the role within the electronic system that provides the administrative authority needed to see pertinent information regarding an application (e.g., summary statements, scores, electronic submission status, etc.).

Click link for details:

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-07-003.html>

Non-Competing Grant Awards Under the Current Continuing Resolution

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) continues to operate on a continuing resolution (CR) that currently extends through November 17, 2006. The CR applies the terms of the FY 2006 appropriations for the period covered by the CR. Until the final FY 2007 appropriation is enacted, NIH will issue non-competing research grant awards at a level below that indicated on the most recent Notice of Award (generally up to 80% of the previously committed level). This is consistent with our practice during the FY 2006 Continuing Resolution (CR). NIH

will consider upward adjustments to these levels after the final appropriation is enacted, but expects institutions to monitor their expenditures carefully during this period.

Click link for details:

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-07-004.html>

Announcing Electronic Grant Submission Training Opportunity

As NIH continues to transition paper applications to electronic submission using the SF424 (R&R) forms, a training event has been scheduled. The presentation is targeted towards research administrators, new and experienced investigators, post docs, trainees and anyone who will be applying for an NIH grant electronically. The event will include a plenary presentation on December 5 combined with "hands-on" computer labs offered December 4 – 6, 2006.

Click link for details:

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-07-009.html>

Grant Topics for Strategic Planning

Roadmap for Medical Research: The National Eye Institute (NEI) is joining with the other 26 National Institutes of Health (NIH) in an ambitious new NIH initiative--a "Roadmap for Medical Research"--that would accelerate the medical research process. This Roadmap could be an effective guide for planning research proposals, as it outlines what the NIH/NEI have an active interest in funding. The core themes of the Roadmap are ([fuller details at http://nihroadmap.nih.gov/](http://nihroadmap.nih.gov/)):

1. **New Pathways to Discovery:** This theme of the Roadmap addresses the need to advance our understanding of the complexity of biological systems. Future progress in medicine will require a quantitative understanding of the interconnected networks of molecules that comprise our cells and tissues, as well as their interactions with one another. Initiatives in this area will provide a solid scientific foundation for new strategies for diagnosing, treating, and preventing disease. Implementation groups in this area are:
 - Building Blocks, Biological Pathways, and Networks
 - Molecular Libraries and Imaging
 - Structural Biology
 - Bioinformatics and Computational Biology
 - Nanomedicine (note that the NEI is the **lead institute** for the Nanomedicine Roadmap Initiative)
2. **Research Teams of the Future:** The scale and complexity of today's biomedical research problems

increasingly demands that scientists work beyond the confines of their own discipline and explore new organizational models for team science. This theme in the Roadmap seeks to encourage greater interdisciplinary interaction, with incentives for high risk research and support for public/private partnerships. Implementation groups in this area are:

- High-risk Research
- Interdisciplinary Research
- Public/Private Partnerships

3. Re-engineering the Clinical Research Enterprise. The most challenging, yet most critical, part of the Roadmap is the need to quickly transform basic research discoveries into clinical practice. At the core of this vision is the need to develop new partnerships of research with organized patient communities, community-based physicians, and academic researchers. This theme will promote better integration of existing clinical research networks, encourage the development of technologies for the assessment of clinical outcomes, harmonize regulatory processes, and enhance the training of the next generation of clinical researchers. Implementation groups in this area are:

- Clinical Research Networks and NECTAR
- Clinical Outcomes Assessment
- Clinical Research Training
- Clinical Research Policy Analysis and Coordination
- Translational Research

Other Announcements

8th Scientific Meeting Association for Ocular Pharmacology and Therapeutics

February 9-11, 2007
San Diego, California

THEME: The purpose of the AOPT is to encourage and advocate research, training, publication, and dissemination of knowledge in ocular pharmacology and therapeutics.

WHO: Principal investigators, scientists, medical professionals, technicians, and students with an interest in ocular pharmacology and therapeutics.

CREDIT: This activity has been approved for AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™ and COPE continuing education credits.

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[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO REGISTER](#)

Office of Research Integrity

A researcher who has used cell lines as a research tool for more than 40 years calls attention to the high and increasing level of cross-contaminated cell lines in cancer and other biomedical research that may have tainted up to 20% of publications and proposes a plan of action.

Click link for details:

<http://ori.hhs.gov/education/CellContamination.shtml>

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Public Folder/Research Administration*

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someone to the distribution list and/or have any
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Lee at clee@doheny.org*