February 2, 2015

Re: Request for proposals for Pilot and Feasibility Grants

Dear Faculty Member:

The Duke O’Brien Center for Kidney Research (DOCK) is funding up to three Pilot & Feasibility (P&F) Projects for the 2015-16 academic year. The DOCK P&F Program supports research investigating the unique links between the kidney, cardiovascular disease, and hypertension by establishing Cores to support animal models and phenotyping for hypertension, kidney and cardiovascular diseases; human genetic studies; and clinical and translational research (a detailed description of the Cores can be found at http://www.dukekidneycenter.org). P&F projects should take advantage of one or more of these Cores.

The grants provide funding of up to $50,000/yr with the possibility of competitive renewal for a second year. A regular faculty appointment is required; post-doctoral fellows are not eligible. The purpose of the grants is to support projects relevant to the overall themes of the DOCK with the goal of generating sufficient preliminary data to support a successful application for external funding. Three categories of faculty are eligible for funding: (1) New investigators working in the Center’s theme but who do not have independent (R01 or P01 level) funding from NIH; (2) Established investigators not currently working in the Center’s theme but whose P&F project would apply their expertise to a question relevant to the DOCK’s scientific focus; or (3) Established investigators working in the Center’s theme, but whose proposed P&F project represents a new and distinct line of investigation.

Eligible investigators should submit a 4-page proposal using the NIH format, which includes a title and abstract, specific aims, brief description of the background and research plan as well as key references. Applicants should also indicate their eligibility category and how the proposal relates to the scientific themes of the DOCK. The 4-page grant application, a NIH style Biosketch and a 1-page budget should be submitted to robert.spurney@dm.duke.edu by end of the business day on April 30, 2015. A detailed description of the DOCK P&F Program, Cores, eligibility requirements and application format can be found at http://www.dukekidneycenter.org. Please contact Robert F. Spurney if you have any questions about the Cores’ services or the P&F program.

Sincerely,

Robert F. Spurney, MD
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