

Request for Application 2017



Background: A core mission of the CGM is to leverage the potential synergy between UAB School of Medicine and the technological infrastructure and expertise at HudsonAlpha to make important contributions in the area of genomic medicine. Over the past two years, the CGM has funded 6 internal pilot projects led cooperatively by PIs at each institution. This effort has been successful from the perspective of providing a platform for developing new projects, new collaborations, and securing external funding. To further advance the CGM core mission in a way that more broadly benefits many investigators at the UAB SOM, the CGM will initiate a new granting program in which collaborative groups (“working groups”) provide leadership and direction.

Expectations and requirements: Collaborative working groups may already exist, or may be developed in response to the new program, and may be organized around systems and/or diseases, e.g. “Neuroscience”, “Cardiovascular Diseases”, “Autoimmunity”, etc. The key requirements for the new granting program are that leadership and scientific/clinical benefit should involve multiple (2 or more) existing research groups, and that the proposal should involve application of genomic infrastructure and technology to an important scientific and/or clinical problem. In most cases, the working group will be comprised of multiple PIs (at UAB and/or HudsonAlpha), and will involve services provided by HudsonAlpha GSL; however, intellectual leadership with regard to design and analysis of genome-scale projects can come from either institution. It is anticipated that 3 – 4 awards of \$75,000 - \$100,000 will be made per year, for a 1 – 2 year period.

Implementation:

This document is intended to serve as a program announcement, to initiate and catalyze development of working groups. Limited funds are available to support development of new groups (e.g. meeting support).

The CGM Symposium, **May 8, 2017**, will provide a forum and opportunity to further disseminate and discuss the new grant program, and to develop working groups.

A **letter of intent** from all working groups is required by **May 29, 2017**, identifying the participants, the communicating PI, and briefly summarizing the goals they plan to achieve. We anticipate 5 – 6 working groups in total; should the number (as reflected by letters of intent) be substantially more, a preliminary evaluation will be carried out, to be completed by **June 26**.

Full applications will be **due Aug 11**, and recipients announced Sept 15, with funding to begin **Oct 1, 2017**.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTION:

LETTER OF INTENT: Include Title of project, communicating PI’s name, title, department, phone number and e-mail address; names, titles and department affiliations of any co- investigators and briefly summarize anticipated goals in max. (2) single-spaced pages, 11 point Arial font, 1/2 inch margins and saved as PI’s last name (i.e. Korf.pdf)

FULL APPLICATION: Combine the following components into one .pdf file, saved as PI’s last name (i.e. Korf.pdf)

- a. **Cover Page** - include Title of project, PI’s name, title, department, phone number and e-mail address; names, titles and department affiliations of any co- investigators
- b. **Abstract** - one (1) page executive summary of the proposal that includes discussion how the team-science approach promises to substantially impact the discipline.

- c. **Proposal** – include an overview, relevant efforts, goal and methodology, transformational impact, team expertise, potential for external future funding in four (4) single-spaced pages, 11 pt. Arial, 1/2" margins
- d. **Budget** – include personnel (incl. fringe); materials/supplies; equipment; travel; contractual services; other
- e. **Budget Justification**
- f. **Biosketch** – NIH biosketch format of the PI and Co-Investigators

FUNDS AVAILABLE: It is anticipated that 3 – 4 awards of \$75,000 - \$100,000 will be made per year, for a 1 – 2 year period. Because the scope and nature of the proposed research will vary from application to application, the size of the award may vary. Annual funding will be contingent on meeting milestones. Funds provided under this award can be utilized for support of critical pilot projects, support for non-faculty personnel, and other expenses that are crucial to developing a competitive proposal.

REVIEW PROCEDURES: All the review processes will be conducted by faculty at the UAB School of Medicine and HudsonAlpha with appropriate expertise. Evaluation will be based on the track record of the principal investigator, alignment of working group, the potential impact, the innovativeness of the proposed project, the lack of duplication with existing programs, and the integration of genetics and genomics in the subject discipline

APPLICATION SUBMISSION: Applications must be submitted online via the SOM research funding website <http://www.uab.edu/medicine/home/research/funding-opportunities> (Shaila will check with SOM if this is still the relevant site for submission). Complete the requested form fields and upload the application as one .pdf, naming the file with the last name of the PI (i.e., Korf.pdf).

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

Q. Can faculty salary support be requested?

A. No. Only support for non-faculty personnel can be requested.

Q. If a co-investigator or a component of the project is from another institution, can support be provided?

A. No. Support for this RFA must stay at UAB/HudsonAlpha and be used internally.

Q. If the investigators are proposing a project or experiments that require IRB, IACUC, FDA approval (IND approval) before the project can begin, can they use the JIT "option" and not start the regulatory paperwork unless the project is chosen for funding?

A. Yes.

Q. Can the investigator request funding for projects that will be submitted to non-NIH entities for funding?

A. Yes. The investigator can send applications to other federal agencies (i.e. DOD, DARPA, NSF etc) or foundations, however highly competitive applications that are targeted to NIH are preferred.

Q. Are the proposals required to go through OSP?

A. No.

Letter of Intent due: 5PM, Monday, May 29, 2017

For more information, contact:

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