

Title: COBRE Center for Cancer Signaling Networks Seed Funds Available

Key Dates:

Release date: February 29, 2012

Deadline for Receipt of Application: March 31, 2012

Project Start Date: April 1, 2012

Project End Date: March 31, 2013

Purpose: The purpose of the pilot project mechanism associated with the type III COBRE for Cancer Signaling Networks is to provide seed funds to stimulate collaboration between groups of senior, mid-career, and in some cases junior investigators. The goal is to provide funds that will enable the group to generate data capable of supporting a collaborative multi-PI and/or program grant applications.

Funds available and the number of awards: This year we anticipate funding 2-3 awards at \$50,000 each for a one year period. Investigators making use of the transgenic mouse and gene targeting core will be given priority in this round of funding.

Budget and project period: Total costs cannot exceed \$50,000.

Eligible Institutions/Organizations: Brown and COBRE affiliated institutions in RI are eligible.

Eligible PIs: The principle investigator should be of sufficient stature to successfully manage a multi-PI R01, a program project grant, or a center grant. The PI should be capable of fostering a positive mentoring environment to ensure success. Junior investigators with a documented need to produce gene targeted mice are encouraged to apply.

Resubmission: NA

Renewals: Renewals will be reviewed based largely on progress during the previous funding cycle. The need for additional funds must also be well justified. We anticipate that the majority of awards in any given year will be used to stimulate new projects as opposed to continuing projects.

Research Objectives: The seed funds are envisioned as stimulating research collaborations across disciplines that have a high likelihood of germinating into successful collaborative grant applications. The research program will be **required** to make full use of the core facilities in either genomics or transgenics or both. A significant portion of the budget (30% or more) should be devoted to the direct use of the cores.

Content and Form of Application:

The proposal should include the following (items 1-8), submitted as a single document in pdf format:

1. A cover sheet that contains:

- a. PI and CO-PI names (specifying contact information for the PI), titles, and departments
- b. proposal title

c. a 250 word abstract describing the proposed research project, the research group or enterprise that will ultimately result from this initial effort, and an assessment of how the cores will be used to advance the effort.

2. Proposal (not to exceed 2,500 words). The proposal should summarize the relevant background literature and research that puts the proposed project into the appropriate context and explains how it will significantly extend or contribute to the field. The applicant should describe the proposed research project in terms that do not require reviewers to be experts in the sub-area of the research. The applicant should clearly describe the goals of the research, the activities to be carried out to achieve those goals, a timetable for completing these activities, and an assessment of the potential for subsequent external funding. Finally, the applicant should include a description of how the proposed activity will result in a collaborative team working synergistically on a project that is truly multidisciplinary.

Items 3-8 below are not included in the 2,500 word limit:

3. References

4. A budget that itemizes general categories of expenses for which award funds will be used and a brief justification for these expenses. Note that a significant portion of the budget (30% or more) should be devoted to the direct use of the cores. (Use relevant sections of current PHS 398 Form Pages 4 and 5).

5. A list of the applicant's current and pending awards for external research support (NIH Format).

6. A current NIH Biosketch for each collaborator (Current NIH Format).

7. Human Subjects: Follow NIH guidelines.

8. Vertebrate Animals: Follow NIH guidelines.

*9. For proposals originating outside of Brown University a "letter of intent" and a detailed budget will need to be included so that a sub-award can be made from Brown University to your institution.

Address for Sending Application: patricia_werner@brown.edu

Review Criteria: Applications that make full use of the core facilities and are deemed to have a high likelihood of success in the near-term as independent collaborative projects will be given priority.

Post-Award Accountability (deliverables): A progress report is required at the end of the funding cycle. This report should outline how the seed money contributed to the collaborative effort.

Peer Review of Submitted Applications: Applications will be reviewed by the COBRE PI and the directors of each core in consultation with the External Advisory Committee. Applications will be scored using the NIH system and the most competitive applications will receive funding. Detailed critiques will not be provided.