

WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY

SCHOOL of MEDICINE
THE BOWMAN GRAY CAMPUS

OFFICE OF RESEARCH

<http://www.wfubmc.edu/or>

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PURSUIT

RESEARCH INFORMATION BULLETIN Vol. 17, No. 3, March 2003

SCHOOL OF BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING WINS FINAL APPROVAL

The joint Virginia Tech-Wake Forest University School of Biomedical Engineering and Sciences won final approval Wednesday (March 19) from the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV). On Feb. 14, the new school had won approval from the University of North Carolina Board of Governors, which has a similar role to the SCHEV in North Carolina. Gordon A. Melson, Ph.D., dean of the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences at Wake Forest, said the new school will begin enrolling graduate students in the fall. Students already have applied anticipating that the school would be approved. The school plugs a hole on both campuses: Virginia Tech has no medical school and Wake Forest has long sought to add an engineering program. The school also may help in attracting biomedical companies to Winston-Salem and to the Piedmont Triad Research Park. The seals of both universities will be on diplomas awarded by the joint school. The school was announced by the two universities on Oct. 16, 2001. Research collaboration already has begun on a range of biomedical engineering projects, said Peter Santago II, Ph.D., professor and chairman of the Department of Medical Engineering at Wake Forest University and director of the Center for Biomedical Engineering. "Engineers put theory into practice," Santago said. "They solve problems in biology and medicine using engineering methods." The research thrust is to take fundamental discoveries in medicine and biology and turn them into improvements in health care technology. The school will focus on improving imaging, biomechanics and tissue and cell engineering. Wake Forest already is a leader in finding new ways to use imaging such as CT, MRI and PET scanning.

--continued on page 2.

IRB Update for Research Coordinators

The IRB will hold an update meeting Monday, **April 14, 2003 from 2:00- 4:00** in Babcock auditorium. Research coordinators, nurses, monitors and anyone else involved in human research are welcome. No registration is necessary.

CONCERN LINES

ANIMAL CARE & USE -
716-5899
RESEARCH CONDUCT -
716-0338
COMPLIANCE -
1-877-880-7888

**REGULATORY COMMITTEE
DEADLINES**

ANIMAL CARE AND USE COMMITTEE -
APRIL 4 AND MAY 2, 2003

INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW BOARD -
NOON - FRIDAYS

**INTRAMURAL RESEARCH
SUPPORT COMMITTEE
DEADLINES**

*REGULAR AND INTERIM -
APRIL 16, 2003

* Clinical studies or other
research involving humans
are encouraged

WFU/VA TECH, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Wake Forest's center is itself a collaboration of 15 departments of the School of Medicine, which provided \$1.5 million two years ago to launch the center. Virginia Tech's center has more than 20 active faculty.

In the fall of 2002, the universities offered distance learning classes on biomedical engineering, mammalian physiology, and signaling. The mammalian physiology class was taught through a major effort by the Department of Physiology and Pharmacology, coordinated by Kent Vrana Ph.D, Professor of Physiology and Pharmacology. "Teaching physiology to biomedical engineering students is absolutely essential," said Santago. "They must be able to meld biology and engineering."

The School of Biomedical Engineering and Sciences begins teaching students in the fall. Students will be in residence at either campus and biomedical engineering courses taught at one campus will be offered on the other campus via distance learning. The school envisions awarding Master of Science, Ph.D., M.D./Ph.D. and D.V.M./Ph.D degrees. - Bob Conn

**HAVE YOU ATTENDED A RESEARCH ADMINISTRATORS
MEETING LATELY?**

The Office of Research holds a monthly meeting to inform departmental research administrators of useful information regarding grants, protocols, contracts, etc. The group meets the 2nd Thursday of the month at 10:00 am in Commons Conference Room #3. The next meeting will be Thursday, April 10th, when Terry Stout, Director of Industry Relations, will be speaking about how to prepare Industry budgets. If you would like to be included on the mailing list for this group, please contact Amy Comer, acomer@wfubmc.edu.

NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL OF MEDICINE RETRACTS PUBLISHED ARTICLE
This incident serves as a reminder to the medical community that with the privilege of authorship comes a mandate for personal and professional responsibility that must be taken very seriously. The New England Journal of Medicine retracted a study recently because one of the coauthors falsified signatures of the majority of the researchers named on the study as it was being reviewed. The study was published in October, 2002, and concerned a technique in which alcohol is injected directly into the heart to treat hypertrophic cardiomyopathy, a leading cause of sudden cardiac death in children and adolescents. According to the Journal, there was an "egregious disregard of the principles of authorship." According to the notice of retraction, "of the eight persons named as authors of the article, some claimed that they had never reviewed the original data and most claimed that they had not seen or approved either the original version or one or more of the three revised versions of the manuscript." To prevent the problem from happening again, the journal plans to inform all authors of the record by e-mail when their manuscript is accepted. Of course, the principle of respect for colleagues should be applied to all journal submissions, and other joint efforts.

DEAR DR. OR

Dear Dr. OR:

I want to use a drug in my clinic that is not FDA approved but is available in other countries. This use would be for treatment, not research. Is IRB approval required?

Signed

Treatment, not Research

Dear Treatment:

Yes. Drugs or devices that have not been approved by the FDA cannot be used for treatment or research without obtaining an IND (investigational new drug) number or an IDE (investigational device exemption) number from the FDA, and having IRB approval.

Dear Dr. OR:

I have a patient who has found a drug they believe may help in their treatment, but is not available in the U.S. The patient wants me to order the drug and says that the FDA allows patients and doctors to obtain drugs not available in the U.S., but that are available in other countries. Is this correct?

Signed

Importing

Dear Importing:

No, this is not correct. The FDA has developed guidance entitled "Coverage of Personal Importations" which sets forth their enforcement priorities with respect to the personal importation of unapproved new drugs by individuals for their personal use. The guidance identifies circumstances in which FDA may consider exercising enforcement discretion and refrain from taking legal action against illegally imported drugs. FDA's guidance is not, however, a license for individuals to import unapproved (and therefore illegal) drugs for personal use into the U.S. Even if all of the factors noted in the guidance are present, the drugs remain illegal and FDA may decide that such drugs should be refused entry or seized. Most importantly, the guidance does not allow physicians or others to obtain unapproved foreign drugs for use in or distribution to patients as part of clinical care or for research without an IND and IRB approval.

Questions for Dr. OR should be submitted in writing to Amy Comer, Office of Research, or by e-mail: acomer@wfubmc.edu

SEEKING POSITION

2ND YEAR STUDENT AT NC STATE UNIVERSITY (GRADUATION 6/2005; B.S.; MAJOR BIOCHEMISTRY, MINOR GENETICS), SEEKS SUMMER RESEARCH EXPERIENCE. CONTACT RYAN JAMES COOPER, RICOPE2@UNITY.NCSU.EDU OR BY PHONE: SCHOOL - 919-512-5209, HOME - 336-725-5606.

IRB SUBMISSIONS AND IRB FORMS

To facilitate the submission and review process, the IRB requires the use of specific forms. The most current version of all IRB forms is available on the IRB web page under General Information and Forms. From time to time the IRB makes revisions to these forms. These revisions help insure that the IRB receives the information it needs to review submissions and to help maintain regulatory compliance. While the IRB attempts to provide advance notice of form changes in *Pursuit*, this may not always be possible. Regardless of whether advance notice is provided or not, investigators are expected to use the most current version of all IRB forms for their submissions. Before submitting any material to the IRB, investigators should check the IRB web page to make sure they are using current forms and providing all required material. Submissions that do not use the most current version of the required IRB forms or which are incomplete will be returned without review. Questions regarding the IRB submission process or IRB forms should be directed to the IRB Office at extension 6-4542.

Women's Health Educational and Research Opportunities for Clinicians and Scientists

*For upcoming conferences and lectures, visit
our calendar website at
www.wfubmc.edu/women*

MEASURING QUALITY OF CARE FROM WOMEN'S PERSPECTIVE

Carol S. Weisman, PhD, Professor, Department of Health Evaluation Sciences, Penn State College of Medicine will describe a multi-site project to develop and validate the Primary Care Satisfaction Survey for Women, the first women-specific patient satisfaction tool for primary care settings. The survey consists of three scales and has been used in studies of the quality of care in the National Centers of Excellence in Women's Health and in Veterans Administration women's health centers.

Date: Tuesday, April 1, 2003, NOON

Location: Sticht Center Auditorium; Lunch provided.

RESEARCH WORKSHOPS: GRANTS AND MANUSCRIPTS II

Anatomy of a Grant: The Nitty Gritty provides a thorough look at each section of an NIH grant.

Date: Friday, April 4, 8:30-10:30

For a complete brochure and to register, contact the Women's Center at 713-4230. Workshops are held in the Nutrition Center, Commons Conference Room 1-2. Breakfast is provided as are all materials. The cost of each session is \$35.00.

AGENCY FOR HEALTHCARE RESEARCH AND QUALITY (AHRQ)

Policy on the Inclusion of Priority Populations in Research

This notice announces a new AHRQ policy on the inclusion of priority populations in research conducted and supported by the Agency. Applicants will now be required to include in their applications a narrative describing the inclusion of AHRQ priority populations in the proposed project or provide a rationale for exclusion of priority populations when the requirement for inclusion would be inappropriate with respect to the purpose of the study. Priority populations include low income groups; minority groups; women; children; the elderly; and individuals with special health care needs, including individuals with disabilities and individuals who need chronic care or end-of-life health care. Thus, in addition to the requirement to include women and members of minority groups as subjects in all studies involving human subjects, investigators should also consider including subjects from one or more AHRQ priority populations within the context of developing a research design appropriate to the scientific objectives of the planned study. The proposed priority populations to be included in the study should be discussed within the research plan section of the grant application. Complete details about this policy can be found at <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-HS-03-010.html>.

CONTROLLER'S CORNER - GRANTS MANAGEMENT

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

Can I charge my computer to a grant?

When a computer is being purchased for a PI, there are a few questions that have to be answered, such as what is the computer being used for and where will it be located? **IF** the computer is 100% dedicated to one project and will be fully depreciated during the life of the project then it could be charged to the grant. **However**, if the computer will be used for several projects, it is only reasonable that each of the projects be charged for a portion of the computer. If the computer will be used partially for one or more projects, but will also be the PI's primary office computer, the department is responsible for a portion of the computer. Since there are so many variables, when preparing a requisition for a computer, make use of the comments section to justify the purchase or contact your grant accountant prior to making a request to discuss the purchase, this will save time in the long run.

Why does the Controller's office question me when I request a change of the percentage of effort on a project; I am the PI and I know how much time needs to be dedicated to a project.

The controller's office requires an explanation of changes in PI effort because of sponsor regulations. For example, NIH requires an explanation for a 25% change in effort by a PI. If you planned on 30% effort, and decrease it to 20% effort, that is more than a 25% decrease, and may indicate a change in scope of the project from what was approved.

Why do I have to answer questions about what I am buying for my projects; I am doing the science and I know what to purchase.

Please remember the controller's office duty is to enforce the federal regulations and sponsor guidelines. When a grant accountant calls and requests information, it is simply to further understand what is being requested. Sometimes requisitions supply only a catalog number and do not describe what is being purchased, which delays its processing. We have to understand what is being bought to determine if it is allowable and how to code it properly. Coding and following cost principles are important as these help determine our federally negotiated indirect cost rate. We are audited each year to determine if we are following regulations. Institutions that do not follow regulations can be penalized. In worse case scenarios, they can jeopardize further federal funding. Poor audits can also jeopardize funding with other institutions.

Why can't I charge a federal grant for pens, paper, toner, file folders, etc?

Office supplies that are routine are not allowable as they are included in the indirect cost rate. These items fall under this category because it would be hard to keep track of such items and which projects they are used on. General office supplies could be used on many projects; therefore the institution is responsible for supplying them. However, when a project requires vast amounts of dedicated office supplies such to disseminate information to many places, such expenses are identified in the proposal stage and would be allowed.

VIGILANCE: UPDATES FROM WFUSM ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND SAFETY

LABORATORY SELECT AGENT AND TOXIN REGISTRATION DEADLINE PASSES

March 12, 2003, was the deadline for our submission of registration information to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) about biological agents and toxins which could be used for bioterrorism.

This requirement was established by the "Public Health Security and Bioterrorism Preparedness Response Act of 2002" and implemented by CDC and the Department of Justice. There are stiff penalties for non-compliance.

Principal Investigators are required to notify Environmental Health and Safety if using any of the agents or toxins listed in 42 CFR 73. Since the registration has now been submitted, any unregistered use of these agents and/or toxins is not authorized and is illegal.

CDC and the Department of Justice (FBI) require strict reporting and compliance. Please contact David A. Brown, Director, Environmental Health and Safety (WFUHS) @ 6-9375 if you have questions concerning agents or toxins and these regulations.

COMPRESSED GAS CYLINDER STORAGE

In the coming weeks, EH&S will be conducting a special audit of compressed gas storage practices across all campuses of WFUHS. The purpose of this audit is to assess the current status of compressed gas storage and to address any safety and other regulatory issues that may arise.

Areas for compressed gas users to check include:

- Cylinders stored securely
- Cylinders not in use have valve caps
- Cylinders not located in area entrances
- No nesting of cylinders

More information on compressed gas storage can be found on the EH&S website: [Safety Line #2](#) which addresses compressed gas storage and use. [Compressed Gases - Storage and Handling Guidelines](#) is a more detailed look at compressed gas requirements.

For assistance call 777-3099.

EFFECTIVE BIOWASTE DECONTAMINATION

Autoclaves have traditionally been used to decontaminate biowaste. A recent study of common autoclaves revealed practices that maximize the effectiveness of this approach to decontamination. Autoclave bags should be two-thirds full and placed in stainless steel pans. Bags should be kept wide open so steam can penetrate to the deepest portion of the load. The longest gravity cycle should be used for decontamination. If you have additional questions regarding biowaste decontamination, please call 6-6440.

BEEN IMMUNIZED?

The Biosafety Committee recently completed a review of the occupational health aspect of research involving Vaccinia virus. The potential for self-inoculation has been demonstrated through reports from lab researchers. Review of the existing research identified the need for principal investigators to counsel individuals regarding the risks of working with Vaccinia. CDC continues to recommend that individuals involved with this type of research be immunized with the Vaccinia vaccine. Questions regarding working with this virus should be directed to Bernie Menuey at 6-6440 or Dr. Charles Woods at 6-3197.

NEWS FROM NIH

REMINDER TO APPLICANTS ABOUT REQUIREMENT TO SUBMIT COMPLETE AND UP-TO-DATE OTHER SUPPORT INFORMATION

NIH requires submission of complete and up-to-date “other support” information before an award can be made. Other support includes all financial resources, whether federal, non-federal, commercial or institutional, available in direct support of an individual’s research endeavors, including but not limited to research grants, cooperative agreements, contracts, and/or institutional awards. Training awards, prizes, or gifts are not included. Applicants should not include information on other support in the PHS 398 competitive grant application submission, but should be prepared to follow “just-in-time” procedures to submit current other support information upon the request of NIH Institute/Center staff when the application is under consideration for funding. Grantees must also report any changes in other support as a part of their annual progress report.

PUBLICATION OF “FINANCIAL CONFLICT OF INTEREST - OBJECTIVITY IN RESEARCH: INSTITUTIONAL POLICY REVIEW”

The NIH announced the publication of “Financial Conflict of Interest - Objectivity in Research - NIH Review of Institutional Conflict of Interest Policies.” The document is available at http://grants.nih.gov/grants/policy/coi/nih_review.htm. During 2002, NIH requested 300 institutions to provide a copy of their policy on financial conflict of interest as described in Title 42 Code of Federal Regulation (CFR) part 50, Subpart F, “Responsibility of Applicants for Promoting Objectivity in Research for which PHS Funding is Sought.” The purpose of the review was to allow the NIH the opportunity to: develop a broad view of how these policies are implemented by an array of institutions; and provide a reasonable assessment of compliance with the provisions of the PHS regulation. The information in this document is based on the review of a representative sample of over 100 policies from a mix of institutions consisting of public and private academic institutions, public and private research institutions, hospitals, and large and small for-profit organizations. NIH is making this document available to the broader biomedical research community as an educational tool to promote awareness of and compliance with federal financial conflict of interest regulations.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL PERSONNEL ACT (IPA) MOBILITY PROGRAM

Established in 1971, this long-standing program supports the temporary assignment of personnel back and forth between Federal agencies, State and local governments, institutions of higher education and other eligible organizations. It can be used by full-time WFUHS faculty, for example, to undertake an appointment at the NIH for up to two years. It is the NIH policy to encourage and support temporary assignment of personnel between NIH and other qualified institutions under the Intergovernmental Personnel Act (IPA) Mobility Program when the assignment is for work of mutual concern and benefit to NIH and the institution. Assignments solely for training are not permissible; however, assignments are appropriate that involve gaining experience and knowledge that will improve employees’ subsequent effectiveness in their regular assignments. By accepting employees from other organizations on temporary assignment, NIH is able to: assist in the transfer and use of new technologies; attract and utilize difficult to obtain talent; give valued experience that will increase the assignee’s and the home institution’s future effectiveness when dealing with NIH; and strengthen both organizations’ resources.

About 1400 assignments are approved each year among all federal agencies. Nonetheless, opportunities for these temporary assignments are infrequently advertised. Instead, arrangements are made individually via interested organizations. Federal agencies should be contacted directly to inquire about potential assignments.

Research Funding Opportunities

For all funding information contact Angela Horton, Office of Research, 62382, unless noted otherwise in the funding announcement

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

POSITION: Breast Cancer Research Program

DESCRIPTION: The U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command (USAMRMC) has issued an announcement to solicit proposals for breast cancer research. The overall goal of this funding effort is to promote research directed toward eradicating breast cancer. Within this context, the objectives of the Program are to prevent breast cancer, cure breast cancer, and improve the quality of life for individuals living with breast cancer. Additional information regarding the programs below can be found at <http://cdmrp.army.mil/funding/03bcrp.htm>. All proposals must be submitted electronically at <https://cdmrp.org/proposals>, only after receiving Office of Research approval prior to submission. Additional information about the submission process can be found at http://www.wfubmc.edu/or/aa_DOD.htm.

Innovator Awards - the intent of this award is to provide accomplished and visionary scholars/investigators from the academic, government and private sectors with funding and freedom to pursue creative, potentially breakthrough research that could ultimately accelerate the eradication of breast cancer. Awards are for up to \$5 million dollars for a period of up to five years.

DEADLINE: May 14, 2003

IDEA Awards - these grants award innovative ideas and technology; no preliminary data is required. Awards average \$100,000 per year for up to three years.

DEADLINE: May 14, 2003

Predoctoral Fellowships - these awards prepare new scientists for careers in breast cancer research. Applicants must be graduate students under the guidance of a designated mentor. Individuals enrolled in an M.D./Ph.D. program are encouraged to apply. Awards are for \$30,000 per year for up to 3 years.

DEADLINE: May 14, 2003

Postdoctoral Fellowship - these awards are for recent doctoral graduates with less than 5 years of postdoctoral research experience and prepare new scientists for a career in breast cancer research. Awards are for \$100,000 per year for up to 3 years.

DEADLINE: May 14, 2003

Pre-proposal submission is required for the following mechanisms:

Clinical Translational Research Awards - to support projects likely to have a major impact on chemoprevention and/or therapy for breast cancer patients. Focus should be on moving research from the laboratory into a clinical trial. A clinical trial must be part of the proposal. Preliminary data is required. Applicants can be of any level of experience. There are no dollar restrictions, awards are for up to 4 years.

Breast Cancer Center of Excellence Awards - to unite, in a Center of Excellence environment, the most highly qualified investigators to focus on an important question relevant to breast cancer. Proposals are encouraged addressing breast cancer prevention and tailored cancer therapeutics. Preliminary data is required. Applicants must be established investigators with experience in managing large projects. Awards are for up to \$10 million for up to 5 years.

DEADLINE: Pre-proposal - April 3, 2003

Full Application - August 7, 2003

THE SONTAG FOUNDATION

POSITION: Distinguished Scientist Award

DESCRIPTION: The Foundation announces its first independent initiative to brain cancer research funding. This Award will provide support and recognition to outstanding early career scientists who are currently in their first faculty appointment. Awards are for three years for \$150,000 for the first year, and \$175,000 for years two and three. Proposed research should be the applicant's primary focus and should have the potential to generate new knowledge regarding the causes or cure of brain tumors or lead to improved rates of survival and/or improved functional recovery for individuals with brain tumors. Eligibility is not limited to investigators currently working in brain cancer research; scientists from other fields are encouraged to apply with proposals relevant to brain tumors. Complete information is available at www.sontagfoundation.com.

DEADLINE: May 30, 2003

WHITEHALL FOUNDATION

POSITION: Research Grants

DESCRIPTION: The Foundation assists scholarly research in the life sciences. The policy of the Foundation is to support research that is not heavily supported by Federal agencies or other foundations with specialized missions. The Foundation is currently interested in basic research in neurobiology, defined as follows: Invertebrate and vertebrate (excluding clinical) neurobiology, specifically investigations of neural mechanisms involved in sensory, motor, and other complex functions of the whole organism as these relate to behavior. The overall goal should be to better understand behavioral output or brain mechanisms of behavior. Applicants must be at the assistant professor level or above, not have substantial existing or potential funding; applications may be held in abeyance until the results of other funding decisions are determined. Awards are for three years for up to \$75,000 per year.

DEADLINE: Letter of Intent - April 15, 2003

Full Application - June 1, 2003

POSITION: Grant-in-Aid

DESCRIPTION: This program is designed for researchers at the assistant professor level who experience difficulty in competing for research funds because they have not yet become firmly established. Grants-in-Aid are awarded for a one-year period and do not exceed \$30,000. Additional information can be found at www.whitehall.org.

DEADLINE: Letter of Intent - April 15, 2003

Full Application - June 1, 2003

Research Funding Opportunities

For all funding information contact Angela Horton, Office of Research, 62382, unless noted otherwise in the funding announcement

Research Funding Opportunities

For all funding information contact Angela Horton, Office of Research, 62382, unless noted otherwise in the funding announcement

THE MCKNIGHT ENDOWMENT FUND FOR NEUROSCIENCE

POSITION: McKnight Neuroscience of Brain Disorders Award

DESCRIPTION: The Fund supports innovative research designed to bring science closer to the day when diseases of the brain and behavior can be accurately diagnosed, prevented, and treated. The Award assists scientists working to apply the knowledge achieved through basic research to human brain injury or disease. Awards are for \$100,000 per year for three years. A letter of intent is required; a selected few will be invited to submit detailed proposals.

DEADLINE: Letter of Intent - May 1, 2003

THE INSTITUTE OF MEDICINE

POSITION: Gustav O. Lienhard Award

DESCRIPTION: The Institute is accepting nominations for this award. The award, a medal and \$25,000 recognizes individuals for outstanding achievement in improving health care services in the US and focuses on creative or pioneering efforts that have appreciably improved personal health services rather than on contributions to the science base of health care. To encourage consideration of the widest possible range of candidates, no eligibility limits are placed on the education and profession of individuals who may be nominated. Additional information can be found at <http://www.iom.edu/iom/iomhome.nsf/Pages/lienhard+home>.

LETTER OF INTENT: April 17, 2003

MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY ASSOCIATION

POSITION: Research Grants

DESCRIPTION: The MDA supports basic and applied research into forty diseases of the neuromuscular system with the ultimate goal of identifying the causes of, and effective treatments for, the muscular dystrophies and related diseases which include spinal muscular atrophies and motor neuron diseases, peripheral neuropathies, inflammatory myopathies, metabolic myopathies, and diseases of the neuromuscular junction. Applicants must have a Ph.D, M.D. or equivalent degree. A maximum award of \$45,000 is available. Additional information is available at <http://www.mdausa.org>.

DEADLINE: Letter of intent - June 15, 2003

PARALYZED VETERANS OF AMERICA

POSITION: Research and Fellowship Awards

DESCRIPTION: The agency provides research funding in four areas:

- Laboratory research in the basic sciences to find a cure for spinal cord injury or disease.
- Clinical and functional studies of the medical, psychosocial, and economic effects of spinal cord dysfunction and interventions to alleviate these effects.
- Design and development of new and improved assistive devices for people with spinal cord dysfunction.
- Fellowships for postdoctoral scientists, clinicians, and engineers to encourage training and specialization in the field of spinal cord research. Research grants are usually in the range of \$50,000 - \$75,000 per year. Basic science, clinical and design and development proposals cannot exceed \$75,000 per year, including indirect costs. Fellowship proposals cannot exceed \$50,000 per year, including indirect costs. Additional information can be found at <http://www.pva.org>.

DESCRIPTION: June 1, 2003

NCRR, NHGRI, NIBIB, NIEHS

POSITION: Technology Development for Biomedical Applications - PAR-03-075

DESCRIPTION: The purpose of this PA is to invite innovative applications for the development of new and improved instruments or devices; the development of new methodologies using existing instruments; or the development of software related to instrumentation. These projects should propose tools, methodologies, or software that can be used by a wide range of biomedical or clinical researchers; projects that focus on specific organs or diseases are not responsive to this announcement. Awards made for applications received in response to this PA will employ the R21 and R21/R33 mechanisms that are designed to support high-risk applications for which few if any preliminary findings are available.

DEADLINES: June 1 and October 1, 2003

NIEHS

POSITION: Transition to Independent Positions (TIP) - ES-03-006

DESCRIPTION: The TIP Program is designed for exceptionally talented new environmental health scientists in basic, clinical or population-based (epidemiology) research who have demonstrated outstanding scientific abilities during their training. The objective of the program is to provide a commitment of support for most promising new investigators early in their career while they establish their independent research program in a research-intensive environment relevant to environmental health sciences. The TIP investigators are expected to design and pursue their research projects independently in their areas of interest. It is anticipated that the successful applicant will use the award to establish an independent research program and obtain preliminary data that will be the basis for a future research application. Specifically, the TIP investigator is expected to use the preliminary data in environmental health sciences as a basis for an investigator initiated research grant (R01) or equivalent to the NIH in an area of a science directly relevant to the mission of the NIEHS within the first 24 months after initiation of the award.

DEADLINE: Letter of Intent - June 13, 2003

Full Application - July 14, 2003

For all funding information contact Angela Horton, Office of Research, 62382, unless noted otherwise in the funding announcement

Research Funding Opportunities

GRANT AND CONTRACT PROPOSAL WATCH

	This Fiscal Year July - Feb.	Last Fiscal Year July - Feb.	% Change
Proposals Submitted	639	671	(4.8)
Dollars Requested	\$378,506,005	\$321,821,767	17.8

Research Funding Opportunities

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REMINDER

"THREE DAY RULE" FOR APPLICATIONS

Applications must be submitted for review and institutional signature not less than three days prior to the agency deadline. Example: for the upcoming **June 1** deadline, applications must have Controllers Office review of the budget and be submitted to the Office of Research by, **May 27**.

KEY FOR DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

(DHHS) INSTITUTES - (<http://www.nih.gov/icd/>)

AHRQ - Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality

NCCAM - National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine

NCI - National Cancer Institute

NCNR - National Center of Nursing Research

NCRR - National Center for Research Resources

NEI - National Eye Institute

NHLBI - National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute

NHGRI - National Human Genome Research Institute

NIAAA - National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism

NIA - National Institute on Aging

NIAID - National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases

NIAMS - National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases

NIBIB - National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering

NICHD - National Institute of Child Health and Human Development

NIDA - National Institute on Drug Abuse

NIDCD - National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders

NIDDK - National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases

NIDCR - National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research

NIEHS - National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences

NIGMS - National Institute of General Medical Sciences

NIMH - National Institute of Mental Health

NINDS - National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke

NLM - National Library of Medicine

ORWH - Office of Research on Women's Health

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