Digestive Diseases Research Core Center
Pilot and Feasibility Awards
First Call for Applications

Who: Full time faculty and senior post-doctoral fellows at Washington University including (1) junior investigators without independent grant support (excluding career development awards) seeking to establish independence in this field of research; (2) investigators with independent grant support (past or present) who have not been involved in digestive diseases-related research wishing to enter this field; (3) investigators with independent grant support who have previously worked in this field but wish to pursue a new research direction. Questions: Contact Nicholas Davidson, MD, Director, P&F program; E-mail: nod@im.wustl.edu

Why: Support will be provided for the purposes of testing innovative hypotheses which may have significant impact on **digestive diseases** research and for obtaining preliminary data sufficient for funding of a research grant application by conventional mechanism.

What: Awards up to ~ $20,000 direct costs per year for one to two years (latter based on competitive renewal).

When: Application Due Date: February 23, 2009.
Funding Period: May 1, 2009 – April 30, 2010

Where: Applications can be dropped off in Room7112 McDonnell Pediatrics Research Building, mailed to Sandra Doyle at Box 8051 or E-mailed: sdoyle@im.wustl.edu.

WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY
DIGESTIVE DISEASES RESEARCH CORE CENTER
PILOT/FEASIBILITY STUDIES PROGRAM

First Call for Applications

Guidelines

Purpose: The overall objectives of this program are to provide support for the purposes of testing innovative hypotheses which may have significant impact on digestive diseases research. Our hope is that the investigator can then develop enough preliminary data sufficient for funding of a research grant application by conventional mechanisms (e.g. R01). This program hopes to encourage young investigators and more established investigators in other field to approach problems which are relevant to our understanding of normal intestinal, liver and pancreatic function and to digestive diseases. We are particularly interested in projects that address issues in mucosal immunity, epithelial injury/repair, microbial interactions with intestinal, hepatic and pancreatic tissues. We would like to encourage efforts addressing intestinal motility and the application of novel genetic models (e.g., C. elegans, Drosphilia, etc) to address questions in GI tract development. Questions concerning the relevance of potential applications should be discussed with Nicholas O. Davidson, MD, Director, P&F program (nod@im.wustl.edu). The primary objective of this program is to identify projects that will:

- Lead to further extramural, preferably NIH-funded, research support
- Utilize one of the four Core facilities

Who is Eligible? Full time faculty and senior post-doctoral fellows at Washington University who are United States citizens or possess a permanent visa including:

- Junior investigators without independent grant support (excluding career development awards) seeking to establish independence in this field of research
- Investigators with independent grant support (past or present) who have not been involved in digestive diseases-related research wishing to enter this field
- Investigators with independent grant support who have previously worked in this field but wish to pursue a new research direction.

Deadline and Review Process: Applications must be submitted for review by 4:00 p.m. on Monday, February 23, 2009. Following initial review by the External Scientific Advisory Board, a group of semifinalists will be invited to present their proposal in person at the annual DDRC meeting. The PI is required to present in person in order to be considered for possible funding. The annual DDRC meeting is scheduled for April 6 & 7, 2009. Please be available these two dates until a definite date and time has been assigned. Awards will be announced in April, 2009. All applications will be evaluated by the DDRCC Advisory Board for scientific merit. The DDRCC External Advisory Board will make the final funding decision, which will be communicated to the investigator by Dr. Nicholas Davidson.

Awards: The DDRCC will award four grants up to ~ $20,000 for one year. Review of an annual progress report may result in an additional year of funding. No more than two years of funding will be awarded. All awards must have appropriate institutional regulatory approvals (Human Studies Committee, Animal Studies, etc) before money will be available. In general, the award date will not be extended due to delays in receiving regulatory approvals. Therefore, Principal Investigators are encouraged to have paperwork in process or ready for submission by February 23, 2009.

Terms of Awards: Grantees will be required to submit to the DDRCC Advisory Board an annual progress report describing the results of their work, as well as related publications and funding. Acceptance of funds implies a firm commitment to provide this progress report to the committee in a timely manner. All publications should acknowledge the Washington University DDRCC Cores (Grant #5P30 DK052574).

It is expected that the Grantee will completely utilize the full amount of funding awarded during the one-year term of the award. All unexpended funds at the end of the term will be returned to the DDRCC Administrative Core. Extensions or changes to the terms of the award (length of funding period and budget) will only be made in exceptional circumstances. A grantee may request a second year of funding only if the first year's funding has been completely expended.

Completed original application, 8 copies, and an electronic file (PDF the entire application and a "Word" document of Abstract page on disk or as E-mail attachment) should be submitted to:

Sandra Doyle, DDRCC Research Program Administrator
Gastroenterology Division
7th floor McDonnell Pediatrics Research Building, Room 7112

If there are any questions about this award, or individual eligibility concerns, please contact Nicholas O. Davidson at (314) 362-2027 or by email at NOD@wustl.edu.

WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY
DIGESTIVE DISEASES RESEARCH CORE CENTER
PILOT/FEASIBILITY STUDIES PROGRAM

First Call for Applications
Instructions

Application Due Date: **February 23, 2009**
Funding Dates: **May 1, 2009 – April 30, 2010**

Please submit to: Sandra Doyle, DDRCC Administrator
Washington University Digestive Diseases Research Core Center
Room 7112 McDonnell Pediatrics Research Building
(314) 362-2031

The application packet must include the following forms:

- NIH Face Page
- NIH Description, Performance Site and Key Personnel
- NIH Table of Contents
- NIH Budget pages (2 pages)
- NIH Biographical Sketch (format page - maximum 4 pages)
- Other Support
- NIH Resources
- Research plan (4-page maximum, excluding references). Include 1) Specific Aims, 2) Background and Significance, 3) Preliminary Data, 4) Research Design and Methods, 5) Relevance of the Proposed Project to the GI Field, 6) Anticipated use of the cores, and 7) Description of how the results of this study will lead to future investigations/grant applications. If necessary, additional materials, such as reprints or figures, can be submitted as an appendix.
- Core Facilities Usage and Required Approvals Form
- Copy of approval letter if project involves human or animal subjects
- If applicant is a junior faculty member or postdoctoral fellow, a letter of support from his/her Division Chairman, confirming the plans to establish an independent research career must accompany the application.
- If project requires a sponsor, consultant or collaborator, this individual must write a letter of support for the application and should clarify any potential overlap between their support and the subject of the proposal. This letter should accompany the application.

Applicants are requested to use the NIH PHS 398 (Rev. 11/07) forms.

Additional Instructions:

1. Please list the Principal Investigator's (PI) name on the top right-hand corner of every page of the application.

2. When completing the budget page, please refer to the list of expenditures allowed and not allowed included with these instructions. Use 52% F&A rate.

3. The following headings should be used for the research plan (**1-7** maximum 4 pages).

    1. **Specific Aims:** State concisely the hypothesis to be tested and the specific aim(s) to be achieved during the grant period. The aims must be reasonable to achieve during the one-year period of the grant.

    2. **Background and Significance:** State the relevance of the proposed project to basic, clinical or prevention and control. Discuss the use of one or more DDRCC Core Facilities.

    3. **Preliminary Studies/Progress Report:** Discuss the pertinent research findings that will help to establish the experience and competence of your project.

    4. **Research Design and Methods:** Concisely present your experimental design and the methods to be used to accomplish your specific aims relating to that of digestive diseases and to longer term funding objectives. Also indicate how the results will be interpreted and how they will lead to future investigations. Well-known methods and standard procedures may be described very briefly or referenced, but novel experimental approaches should be outlined in more detail. The experimental design section should indicate which of the Digestive Diseases Core Facilities will be utilized.

    5. **Relevance of the Proposed Project to the GI Field**

    6. **Anticipated use of the cores**

    7. **Description of how the results of this study will lead to future investigations/grant applications**. If necessary, additional materials, such as reprints or figures, can be submitted as an appendix.

    Appendix:
    - **References (maximum 1 page)**
    - Table or Figures relevant to this proposal (maximum 2 pages)
    - Pertinent recent publications (maximum 3)

<u>Allocation and Expenditure of Funds:</u>

Expenditures Allowed:
- Staff salary support
- Research supplies and animal maintenance

- Minor equipment costing less than $5,000. Special justification is necessary for items exceeding this amount, and permission must be obtained from the Washington University Digestive Diseases Research Core Executive Committee for the purchase of such equipment.
- Special fees (pathology, photography, etc.)

Expenditures NOT Allowed:

- Principal Investigator salary support
- Secretarial/administrative personnel salary support
- Office equipment and supplies
- Computers
- Tuition
- Domestic or Foreign Travel
- Publication costs, including reprints
- Dues and membership fees in scientific societies
- Purchasing and binding of periodicals and books
- Honoraria and travel expenses for visiting lecturers
- Rental of office or laboratory space
- Construction or building maintenance
- Recruiting and relocation expenses

WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

DIGESTIVE DISEASES RESEARCH CORE CENTER

Core Facilities Usage and Required Approvals Form

Principal Investigator:

_____

Project Title:

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Please indicate which core(s) you will use for your proposed project and describe specific needs:

☐ **Murine Model Core**

Jeffrey Miner, Ph.D. - Core Director; Peter Crawford, M.D., Ph.D. – Co-Core Director

Provide microinjection services for construction of genetically well defined transgenic mice by direct injection of DNA into fertilized mouse embryos and by introduction of embryonic stem cells into mouse blastocysts to create chimeric mice, consultation on targeting vectors directed to GI tissues.

Location: Room 610 East McDonald Building

Contacts: Jeffrey Miner, Ph.D.; 362-8235; E-mail: minerj@wustl.edu
Peter Crawford, M.D.-Ph.D.; 362-1222; E-mail: pcrawford@wustl.edu

☐ **Morphology Core**

Deborah Rubin, M.D. – Core Director

Processing of GI tissues for light microscopy for immunohistochemistry and in situ labeling, confocal imaging and electron microscopy.

Location: 922 Clinical Science Research Building, North Tower
Contacts: Kymberli Carter; 362-8949; E-mail: kcarter@im.wustl.edu
Deborah Rubin, M.D.; 362-8935; E-mail: drubin@im.wustl.edu

☐ **Functional Genomics Core**

Brian Dieckgraefe, M.D.-Ph.D. – Core Director, William F. Stenson, M.D. – Co-Core Director

Provide services to facilitate utilization of existing cDNA-based microarrays for gene expression analysis. Training and assistance with generation of biotinylated or fluorescent-tagged cDNA or cRNA representation of the original tissue mRNA pool, slide hybridization and scanning, and analysis of the data.

Location: 929 Clinical Science Research Building, North Tower

Contacts: Brian Dieckgraefe, M.D.-Ph.D.; 747-4059: E-mail: dieck@im.wustl.edu
William F. Stenson, M.D.; 362-8952; E-mail: wstenson@im.wustl.edu

☐ **Proteomics Core**
Reid Townsend, M.D.-Ph.D. – Core Director

Proteomics Core Facility – This facility provides services related to (i) consultation on sample preparation ii) protein/peptide separation and quantification, (iii) protein identification (tandem mass spectrometry using capillary LC-ESI and/or MALDI-TOF/TOF and (iv) protein informatics.

Location: 721 Southwest Tower, 7th floor
Contacts: R. Reid Townsend, M.D.-Ph.D.; 362-7709:
E-mail: samples@proteomics.wustl.edu

☐ **Tissue Procurement Facility**
Ellen Li, M.D., Ph.D. – Core Director

Tissue Procurement Core Facility – This facility is banking coded samples of blood and tissue collected from patients with digestive diseases that is linked to clinical information and genotyping information.

Location: 927 Clinical Science Research Building, North Tower

Contact: Ellen Li, M.D.; 362-1071: E-mail: eli@wustl.edu

Required Approvals:

Human Studies Committee? **Yes** ☐ **No** ☐ **Pending** ☐ **If pending, date submitted**_____

Animal Studies Committee? **Yes** ☐ **No** ☐ **Pending** ☐ **If pending, date submitted**_____

Include all appropriate approvals with application (include in appendix)