

# ***Limited Research Proposal Opportunity***

*to be released March 11, 2019*

## **2019 John S. Dunn Foundation Collaborative Research Award Program**

*Administered by the Gulf Coast Consortia*

The Gulf Coast Consortia (GCC) is pleased to announce the RFA for the 2019 John S. Dunn Foundation Collaborative Research Award Program. Launched in 2009 with generous support from the John S. Dunn Foundation, this seed grant program continues to build the collaborative environment of the Gulf Coast Consortia (GCC).

The purpose of this program is to foster new, exemplary inter-disciplinary and inter-institutional engagement in the **quantitative biomedical sciences** by providing research seed grants of up to \$100,000 total to support research/preliminary work for 2 years with the goal that these exploratory, high-risk projects will be competitive for future peer-reviewed funding.

Funds are awarded to **new** collaborative teams in which each member of the team is from a different GCC member institution: Baylor College of Medicine, Rice University, University of Houston, UT Health Science Center at Houston, UT Medical Branch at Galveston, UT MD Anderson Cancer Center, and The Institute of Biosciences and Technology of Texas A&M. Note that this approach differs from that of previous years, as the requirement that each team include a faculty member affiliated with the Bioscience Research Collaborative has been eliminated.

Each GCC institution will select three teams submitting pre-proposals to move to the full proposal stage. GCC staff will manage the full proposal process with the expectation of 21 full proposals.

### **Pre-Proposal**

Each team of faculty (tenure and tenure-track only) wishing to compete for a Dunn Collaborative Research Award must first submit a pre-proposal (as a PDF) of no more than 2 pages to the PI institution. Additional requirements and guidelines are below.

The pre-proposal will include

- PI name, title, department, institution, email
- All Co-PIs names, titles, departments, institutions, emails
- Title of project
- Abstract of up to 450 words
- Statement attesting to this being a new collaboration among team members (*i.e.*, no joint paper, abstracts, funding)
- Statement that the collaborative team (PI and co-PIs) is submitting the proposal only once and only to the PI institution
- Biosketches for the PI and co-PIs
- List of suggested reviewers – name and email; 3 internal to GCC community and 3 external – in the event the team is invited to submit a full proposal. These reviewers will be able to provide an unbiased, knowledgeable review of your team's inter-disciplinary proposal. Please avoid suggesting reviewers with whom you have conflicts of interest (*i.e.* joint authorship, same departmental affiliations, etc.).

### **Team Eligibility**

Eligible teams must satisfy all of the following criteria:

- Institutional Affiliation: Participation is limited to faculty who are tenured or tenure-track and MD, PhD level or equivalent in GCC member institutions: Baylor College of Medicine, Rice University, University of Houston, The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston, The University of

Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center, The University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston, and The Institute of Biosciences and Technology of Texas A&M Health Science Center.

- Multi-institutional: The research teams *must* include collaborators from at least two different eligible institutions.
- New Collaborations: None of the investigators on the proposing team, including co-PIs, should have worked together previously, since the goal of this program is to initiate new research collaborations. Previous collaborative activity is defined as collaborations that have resulted in measurable outcomes, including but not limited to publications, grants, patents, etc.
- One-proposal Limit: Faculty can be PI or a member of the collaborative team on only one pre-proposal.
- Previous Recipients: There is a 5-year moratorium for all previous award recipients. Members of any research team that received an award between 2014-2018 are ineligible for the 2019 research grant program. A listing of past recipients can be found [here](#).

### **Review**

All pre-proposals will be reviewed internally by a designated research review committee of the PI institution. Based on their review, the committee will select three pre-proposals and will invite the PI of each to submit a full proposal directly to the GCC. Those not invited to submit full proposals will also be notified.

Note: Scientific disciplines covered by submissions to this program range across a spectrum within the *quantitative biomedical sciences*.

### **Selection Criteria for the Full Proposal**

Three teams from each institution will be invited to submit full proposals. The selection criteria for the Dunn Collaborative Research Award Program include the following:

- novelty of the proposed research
- interdisciplinary nature of the work/integration of the team
- quality of the science
- qualifications of the investigators
- anticipated level of impact/long-term sustainability

Please note that the record of previously funded awards is not indicative of a preference for types of proposals or fields covered. All proposals in the quantitative biomedical sciences are welcome and given equal consideration.

### **Timeline for Dunn Pre-Proposals and Full Proposals**

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|--|-------------------|
| • Pre-proposal RFA   | March 11, 2019    |
| • Pre-proposal submission deadline                           | April 1, 2019     |
| • Selection of 3 pre-proposals deadline                      | April 15, 2019    |
| • Invitations sent for submission of full research proposals | April 16, 2019    |
| • Full research proposal submission deadline                 | June 10, 2019     |
| • Review of full proposals                                   | Early August 2019 |
| • Notice of awards   | Late August 2019  |
| • Project start date   | September 1, 2019 |
| • Project end date   | August 31, 2021   |

### **Questions?**

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