2014 Request for Applications (RFA)
Global WACH – W.H. Coulter Foundation Pilot Grants
“Medical solutions to improve the health of women, children, and adolescents”

University of Washington
Global Center for Integrated Health of Women, Adolescents and Children
(Global WACH) & the Bioengineering-Coulter Translational Research Partnership Program

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See the following pages for a description of the award program and application process
2014 Global WACH – W.H. Coulter Foundation Pilot Grants
Bioengineering solutions to improve the health of women, children, and adolescents

Purpose

The University of Washington Center for Integrated Health of Women, Children and Adolescents (Global WACH) aims to contribute to scientific discoveries, develop and nurture future leaders in science and foster collaborative approaches to improving the health and well-being of women, children and adolescents.

The Coulter Translational Research Partnership Program at the UW is dedicated to improving human healthcare by supporting translational research in biomedical engineering-research directed at the transfer of promising technologies within the university research laboratory that are progressing towards commercial development and clinical practice.

As part of these commitments, Global WACH and The Coulter Project are offering pilot research funds to support collaborative translational research in biomedical engineering that addresses clinical needs of women, adolescents and children.

Eligibility

Projects must involve an active collaboration between a UW Bioengineering faculty member and a clinical researcher with a UW faculty appointment. The UW faculty requirement may be waived for one investigator if they have a similar appointment at one of the following institutions:

- Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center
- Seattle Biomedical Research Institute
- Seattle Children’s
- PATH
- Affiliated international universities (must have documented MOU with UW)

Prior to submission of full application (after LOI is approved), PIs must meet with the Coulter Program Director to discuss project potential and the application process.

Types of projects

Projects must address unmet clinical needs and must have strong potential for near-term clinical impact and improved healthcare. Potential topics include novel drug delivery systems, home-based or other novel diagnostics, safe birth and newborn health technologies, injury prevention and control, nutrition technologies and food supplementation, vaccine delivery, and/or pediatric drug formulations.

**Innovations that jointly impact women, adolescents and children, and/or approaches that address dual outcomes or benefits, will be prioritized.

**Proposals that include graduate students or trainees are strongly encouraged.
Funding Available

Awards are up to $30,000 US for one year. Funds are granted internally through the UW, therefore it is not necessary to apply through OSP and no indirect costs are allowed. If indirect costs are required as part of a subcontract to a foreign or outside institution, these must be included as direct costs. Funding cannot be applied to construction of any facilities.

Pre-Submission Guidelines

**Letter of Intent:** The one-page Letter of Intent will serve as an introduction to the team and project and must address the following issues:

- Eligibility of key investigators
- The project aims: what is the problem and what is your solution?

**Due March 5th, 2014 Now Due April 4th, 2014 by 11:59pm (PST):** LOIs should be submitted to Andrew Lewis at lewisar@uw.edu. Letters will be reviewed for eligibility and that proposed research is consistent with the overall purpose of the pilot award program. Applicants who are selected to submit a full proposal will be notified by email.

**Meeting with Coulter Director:** Meet with Coulter Program Director to discuss the project and complete an intellectual property review prior to full application submission.

**Letters of Support:** Your full application must include letters of support from all key personnel including faculty co-investigator(s).

Review Criteria

**Significance:** Does this study address an important problem and an unmet or underserved clinical need? If the aims of the application are achieved, how will scientific knowledge be advanced?

**Approach:** Are the conceptual framework, design, methods, and analyses adequate and appropriate to the aims of the project? Are there reasonable and achievable milestones? Is the study feasible given the duration of one year and a budget of $30,000?

**Innovation:** Does the project employ novel concepts, approaches or methods? Are the aims original and innovative? Does the proposed technology present a substantial improvement over the current standard as well as a reduction in the total cost of healthcare delivery?

**Investigators:** What is the strength and nature of the clinical collaboration? Is/are the investigator(s) appropriately trained and well suited to carry out this work? Are graduate students or trainees involved, and is there an appropriate mentoring plan? The project should aid in the career development of the investigators and there should be a high probability of attracting follow-up funding within five years.

**Environment:** Does the scientific environment in which the work will be done contribute to the probability of success? Is there evidence of institutional support? What is the intellectual property position?

**Potential for new collaborations:** Does the proposal support new linkages and partnerships and/or further develop existing collaborative activities?
Pre-Award Requirements

The Center will not release pilot research funds until awardees complete an administrative clearance process. Clearance will require final IRB approval from all participating institutions and documentation of human subjects training from all investigators where applicable.

Post-Award Requirements

Center support must be acknowledged in all publications derived from Pilot Grant funding. Suggested wording:

“This research was funded (in part) by a 20XX (enter appropriate year of award) developmental grant from the University of Washington Global Center for Integrated Health of Women, Children and Adolescents (Global WACH) and the University of Washington Bioengineering-Coulter Translational Research Partnership Program.”

The awardees will have monthly update meetings with members of the Coulter and Global WACH teams to discuss milestones and next steps.

Annual progress reports and an end of grant report upon completion of the project will be required. This should include information about publications, collaborations, and future grants related to your funded pilot research.

Application Instructions

After receiving an invitation for a full proposal, submit your application by April 21st, 2014 to lewisar@uw.edu using the application form that will be sent to selected applicants. The application, any letters of support, biosketches and any other supporting documentation must be combined into a single PDF. Individual application sections can be expanded or shortened, however proposal narratives (the application form sections 1-13) excluding the budget, budget justification, letters of support, and biosketches should be no longer than six pages. References are not included in the six pages limit and can be inserted after the budget pages. Successful applications will address the following components:

- The proposed research project (innovative bioengineering)
- The health-related product the research is leading to (translational research)
- The clinical impact/market for the product
- The intellectual property landscape in the product space
- The proposed commercial path and first steps