Request for Applications
PIDD Institutional Programmatic Areas
Announcement Date: Monday, April 30, 2018
Proposal Deadline: Friday, June 29, 2018

Introduction

To increase the prominence of drug discovery/development activities at Purdue University, the Institute for Drug Discovery (PIDD) is allocating funds to support the establishment of programmatic areas within the Institute. These programs should bring together multiple faculty, ideally from different departments or areas, to advance an existing strength in drug discovery/development or fill a current gap at Purdue.

What is a program area?

A program area is defined as a collection of investigators and activities that all center around a common theme (e.g. a specific disease target, a disease area, a specific stage of drug discovery, novel technologies, etc.) that requires an interdisciplinary team of enthusiastic collaborating experts to successfully enact. Programmatic areas should align with PIDD's mission of 1) identifying and validating disease targets, 2) discovering, developing, and translating new therapeutics, diagnostics, devices or biomarkers, and/or 3) creating enabling technologies to advance any part of the drug discovery process.

For this RFA, programmatic areas could focus on research projects that require interdisciplinary expertise, efforts which further faculty/student education in drug discovery, establishment of industry partnerships, concepts to enhance the drug discovery/development process or generation of preliminary data & an administration structure that can galvanize the pursuit of larger center/multi-PI grants.

Examples of, but not limited to possible programmatic areas (does not imply any programmatic preference)

1. Immuno-oncology working group
2. Development of higher fidelity predictive tools for clinical trial outcomes
3. Enhanced drug manufacturing methods
4. Diagnostic/therapeutic device working group
5. New methods for drug delivery
6. Creation of novel in vitro lab-on-a-chip models for early stage drug screening
7. Establishment and validation of key animal disease models to facilitate preclinical testing of new drugs
8. Synthesis of Purdue specific novel drug-like libraries
9. Novel computational models for drug discovery

Ultimately, a successful program should raise the prominence of Purdue and its drug discovery efforts, impact patient care by enabling the successful translation of laboratory discoveries into the clinic, provide

a benefit to PIDD affiliated drug discovery researchers, and/or lead to the attainment of external funding (e.g. R01s, multi-PI grants, center grants, etc.).

Applicants are encouraged to consult with the PIDD leadership team. Questions or requests for consultations can be directed to Karson Putt (puttk@purdue.edu).

General Guidelines:

1. **Qualification** – Lead PI must currently be or become a member of the Institute for Drug Discovery. Co-PIs or other key personnel are not required to be PIDD members, but membership is strongly encouraged.
2. **Investigators** – At least 3 faculty investigators representing an interdisciplinary range of expertise must be associated with the project.
3. **Proposal Length** – Proposal should be single-spaced and a maximum of 3 pages in length (Calibri or similar font at 11pt) with no less than 0.5 inch page margins. References are not part of the page limit. A separate 1 page multi PI management plan is also required (see application format section for more information).
4. **Timeline** – Although the total project period can last for a maximum of 2 years, yearly renewals will be required. Successful renewals will require successful completion of project milestones. Funding will be provided on an annual basis and each year's budget should be expended during that fiscal year. For example, funds provided for the 2019 fiscal year should be used by June 30th 2019.
5. **File format** – Only .doc, .docx, or .pdf files will be accepted. Any figures should be embedded in the document and must fit within the maximum page limit.
6. **Progress Report and Future Reporting** – Progress towards milestone goals must be reported semi-annually. Additionally, any funding and/or publications that are generated from this activity must be reported to the Institute (Karson Putt, puttk@purdue.edu).
7. **Deadline** – Applications must be received by Karson Putt (puttk@purdue.edu) by 5:00 pm on Friday, June 29th, 2018. Applicants **do not** need to work with pre-award/SPS to submit an application for this internal RFA.

Award:

Up to $100,000 will be made available to the project per year. Projects may be renewed annually upon successful completion of milestones. Project should not exceed 2 years in total. Budgets should adequately reflect the needs of the project.

Funds can be used for S&E, core facilities, and/or to support graduate student(s), post-doctoral student(s) and/or technical staff. Travel, if deemed critical for the successful implementation of the program by the reviewers is allowable in the budget.

Funds cannot be used for faculty salaries, hospitality expenses, F&A nor capital equipment.

Application Format:

The following information must be included within the maximum 3 page limit

1. Overview of proposed programmatic area
2. Specific aim(s)
3. Program strategy
   - Significance of proposed research
   - Approach to accomplishing specific aims
   - Metrics for success (in the form of milestone goals in Year 1 and Year 2)
4. How project will help translate lab discoveries into positive clinical outcomes for patients or otherwise impact human health
5. Additional resources in addition to funding required from the Institute for Drug Discovery to successfully implement the programmatic area (if applicable)

The following information must be included within the multi-PI management plan (1 page maximum)

1. Governance and organizational structure of the leadership team and research project
2. Administrative, technical, scientific or any other role/responsibilities for the program should be delineated for each of the PIs and collaborators.

Additional information that must be included (not included in the page limit requirements)

1. References
2. List of key personnel/Co-PIs (in the case of pre-existing collaborations, personnel such as graduate students, post-docs or staff that are already collaborating may be listed as well)
3. Budget justification
4. NIH Biosketches for all involved PIs and key personnel

Review Criteria:

1. Potential for the proposed project raising the prominence of Purdue and the Institute for Drug Discovery
2. Scientific merit
3. Potential for subsequent external follow-on funding (Center grants, multi-PI grants, R01s, etc.)
4. Appropriateness of budget requested
5. Feasibility of completing the proposed milestones within the proposed timeframe
6. Potential impact on patient care via feasibility of translating academic discoveries into the clinic or technology/methodology to enhance translational activities.
7. Synergy of collaborating faculty/co-personnel

Publications resulting from Drug Discovery support should be acknowledged as follows:

"The authors gratefully acknowledge support from the Purdue University Institute for Drug Discovery"