Call for White Papers: COBRE in Convergent Engineering & Biomolecular Science (11-14-2024)

Sponsor: National Institutes of Health/National Institute of General Medical Sciences (P20GM148321)

Summary: The NIH Center of Biomedical Research Excellence (COBRE) in Convergent Engineering and Biomolecular Science (CEBS) is requesting **whitepapers** from investigators interested in **pilot project funding** (≤ $50K). Pilot projects have the potential for a second year of funding with appropriate progress in meeting research and program goals.

Eligibility: To be eligible for pilot project funding, applicants must:

1. hold either a tenure/tenure track faculty position or be a Research Assistant/Associate professor faculty position.
2. propose a project that aligns with the CEBS COBRE thematic focus on biomedical devices, sensors, and systems.
3. Include in the proposal a significant use of one or more of the Fabrication, Characterization and Testing (FaCT) Core recharge facilities noted below:
    - Idaho Microfabrication Laboratory (IML)
    - Boise State Center for Materials Characterization (BSCMC)
    - Biomechanics and Mechanobiology Lab (BMMB)
    - Research Machining and Engineering Facility (RME)

Applicants are ineligible for an award if they:

1. hold other IDeA program (INBRE, COBRE, CTRD, NARCH) pilot project or research project leader funding.
2. are the PI on an RO1 grant or equivalent (e.g. NSF Career, etc).

Award: Pilot Project funding **is limited to ≤** $50,000 in direct costs per year**. No indirect costs are awarded.** Special consideration will be given to proposals that consist of collaborative teams from biomolecular sciences and engineering. Prior to submission of the pilot project proposal to the NIH, all compliance approvals (IRBs, IACUC) must be in place.

Application Process: The **initial whitepaper** should be **no more than one page** and will include:

1. Project summary – 1 paragraph
2. List of key personnel
3. Description of alignment with the thematic focus on biomedical devices, sensors, and systems
4. Brief description of the use of one or more of the FaCT Core recharge facilities

Key Dates:

- **December 2, 2024** (5pm) 1 page whitepaper due to Tracy Yarnell at tracyyarnell@boisestate.edu
- **December 3, 2024** Internal review of whitepapers begins
- **December 6, 2024** Notification of selection for applicants to pursue full application
- **January 6, 2025** Complete applications due to the IDeA Programs Office
- **January 10, 2025** Submission of completed applications to external review
- **January 21, 2025** Submission of applications to the NIH for final review
- **February 1, 2025** Earliest start date for funding (but is could be later depending upon the NIH review)
- **December 1, 2025** All award expenditures complete

Selection: If selected, investigators will be given Instructions for the preparation of a full Pilot Project proposal.

Inquiries: Questions regarding the whitepaper should be directed to Ken Cornell: KenCornell@boisestate.edu or Tracy Yarnell: TracyYarnell@boisestate.edu.

Submission: Whitepaper applications are due by 5 PM, December 2, 2024. Submit whitepapers as one PDF document to Tracy Yarnell, Boise State University IDeA Program Manager, via email at tracyyarnell@boisestate.edu.