Funding Opportunities
Call for One Page Pre-Proposals

PROGRAM OVERVIEW
The purpose of the Knight Pilot Project funding mechanism is to cultivate outstanding translational cancer research by assisting in the generation of preliminary data leading to peer-reviewed national funding. This mechanism is intended to support clinical, basic, or population-based research that is cancer focused. Scientific excellence will be the key review element for all applications. Interdisciplinary research, in which investigators from disparate scientific areas collaborate to bring unique approaches to the cancer problem, is encouraged.

Award Opportunities:

- Up to four $50,000 (direct costs for one year) awards. Priority will be given to those proposals including investigators from two or more disciplines (e.g., clinical, population, and basic science). The projects must demonstrate potential advancement of personalized medicine and translational research.

- One $50,000 (direct costs for one year) award. Priority will be given to proposals including investigators from two or more disciplines (e.g., clinical, population, and basic science). The project must focus on research relevant to primary brain tumors.

- One $50,000 (direct costs for one year) award. Priority will be given to those proposals including investigators from two or more disciplines (e.g., clinical, population, and basic science). The project must advance the prostate program goal of understanding mechanisms of treatment resistance and defining signatures of treatment response with the goal of using this information to improve patient selection or develop rational combination strategies to improve tumor control and patient survival.

Eligibility: Knight investigators at the rank of assistant professor or higher. Pilot grants are intended to support new and innovative projects. Projects may be an extension of other work, but cannot overlap with any funded project or be used as bridging support for projects for which funding has lapsed. We encourage applications from young investigators with no other sources to fund these pilot projects, and from senior investigators, with the purpose to foster collaborative exploration of new areas and ideas with high potential for impact in the clinic, including incorporation of emerging technology.

Allowable costs: Personnel (other than PI), supplies, travel, and other expenses such as biostatistics and informatics support. Equipment that is essential for the study, and is not otherwise available, may be requested.

Key Dates: Application deadline: **March 29, 2013**
Review of proposals and selection for more extended proposal: **Approximately April 20, 2013**

Submission Details and Questions:
Applications should be submitted directly to Kristin Bialobok at bialobok@ohsu.edu x46343
A. Application Requirements
Pre-Proposals of 1 page should be in an extended abstract form similar to the Specific Aims page of an NCI proposal, including the need for the research, aims, approaches, innovation and impact. Projects selected by the Translational Steering Committee will be selected for a more extensive proposal (approximately 3 pages) for final review and funding selection. Incorporation of the following points will be important to judge the compelling nature of your proposal.

1. **Cover Letter** (1 page maximum) should address each of the following:
   - Significance and innovation of the proposed research
   - Collaborative aspects of the project
   - Proposed timeline for completion of the project within the one year funding period
   - Other active funding available for the project
   - Research training to-date and mentorship
   - How this funding would further your cancer research career
   - Articulate a clear path to substantial external peer-reviewed funding and explain how the funding mechanism will provide the critically needed support to enable a high quality application for such funding. Plans for future grant submissions (e.g., NIH K-award) utilizing data from the proposal

2. **Research Proposal** – 1-page, following Format Specifications below and including:
   - Specific Aims
   - Hypothesis
   - Background and Significance
   - Preliminary findings (if warranted)
   - Research approaches
   - Literature Cited (does not count against the 1-page limit)

3. **Biographical Sketch(es)** for PI and Key Personnel
   - Use the most recent version of the NIH “Biographical Sketch Format Page” (http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/phs398/phs398.html)

4. **Letters of Support**
   - Letters of support are encouraged
   - Letter from Chair acknowledging potential for no F&A return

B. **Format Specifications.** All applications must adhere to the following guidelines:

1. **Font**
   - Use Arial 11 point.
   - Type density, including characters and spaces, must be no more than 15 characters per inch.
   - Type may be no more than six lines per inch.
   - Use black ink that can be clearly copied.
2. Page Margins
   • Use at least one-half inch margins (top, bottom, left, and right) for all pages, including
     continuation pages.

3. Application Paging
   • The application must be single-spaced.
   • Consecutively number pages.

4. Figures, Graphs, Diagrams, Charts, Tables, Figure Legends, and Footnotes
   • You may use a smaller type size but it must be in black ink, readily legible, and follow
     the font typeface requirement.
   • Do not include figures or other materials that are not inserted directly into the body of
     the application.

C. Review Process
Project proposals will be reviewed by the OHSU Knight Cancer Institute Translational Research Group
Steering Committee. This committee is broadly representative of the Knight, and is made up of
experienced, funded investigators with expertise in evaluating research proposals. Several reviewers will
read each proposal and all members of the committee will discuss them. Overall scores (using the NIH
scale) will be given by each committee member and mean scores will be calculated for each proposal. All
applicants selected for more extensive review will receive reviewer comments, whether their applications
are funded or unfunded.

Each proposal will be evaluated for **Overall scientific excellence**
   • Are the conceptual framework and specific aims, study design, methodology, data
     analysis and interpretation, etc., of high scientific quality?
   • Do the investigators have the appropriate expertise to complete the project? and
     according to the following criteria.

1. **Significance and Impact (25%)**
   • Does this study address an important problem?
   • If the aims are achieved, will scientific knowledge and/or clinical practice be
     advanced?

2. **Innovation (25%)**
   • Will this proposal provide results that are novel and likely to open new avenues of
     cancer investigation?
   • Is the proposal in an exciting new direction apart from the work already ongoing in the
     investigator’s research group?
   • Does the project develop or employ novel concepts, approaches, methodologies,
     tools, or technologies for this area?

3. **Multidisciplinary (25%)**
   • A priority for the Knight is to stimulate collaborative research. Multidisciplinary
     collaboration among scientists of diverse backgrounds is a plus, but not essential.

4. **Likelihood of leading to national funding or career development proposals (25%)**
   • The purpose of this funding mechanism is to cultivate outstanding cancer research by
     assisting in the generation of preliminary data for peer-reviewed national funding,
     career development proposals, or similar.
• All applicants should describe how the proposed studies are related to future funding plans.

Projects are particularly encouraged that have a high likelihood of increasing enrollment of women or minorities to therapeutic clinical trials or understanding the barriers to enrollment (this criteria does not apply to prostate cancer-restricted projects). Projects that use Knight Shared Resources or incorporate these with emerging techniques of systems biology are highly encouraged (Clinical Research Management, Biostatistics, Bioinformatics, Integrated Genomics, Proteomics, Flow Cytometry, Histopathology and Cancer Genotyping, Bioanalytical/Pharmacokinetics, and Transgenic/Gene Targeting).

D. Awardee Responsibilities

1. A Proposed Project Questionnaire (PPQ) is not required at the time of application; however, awardees will be required to submit a signed PPQ.

2. IRB and IACUC approval (if needed) are required prior to release of funds.

3. A summary report describing project accomplishments must be submitted at the end of each fiscal year, until all funds are used. This should include publications, grant applications (applied and funded), INDs or IDEs resulting from the project, and plans to further develop the project.

4. Many of these awards have been made possible by generous philanthropic donors. Awardees should plan on sending a note of thanks and meeting the donor(s) at a mutually agreeable time and location to report on the project.

E. Further Information

Please direct all questions to Kristin Bialobok 503-494-6343, bialobok@ohsu.edu