

# CALIFORNIA NATIONAL PRIMATE RESEARCH CENTER

## Annual Request for Letters of Intent for Pilot Projects

**Purpose:** The Research Advisory Committee of the California National Primate Research Center (CNPRC) invites Letters of Intent for potential pilot projects for the period of May 1, 2009 – April 30, 2010. The purpose of the CNPRC Pilot Program is to provide a means for obtaining preliminary data from nonhuman primates for use in NIH grant proposals, with the ultimate goal of establishing a new, extramurally-funded research program at the CNPRC. Pilot projects, therefore, should lead to tangible results in a 1-year period on a project that has a reasonable likelihood of NIH grant funding. Staff Scientists at CNPRC are not eligible to apply as Principal Investigators.

**Eligibility Requirements:** Applications can only be submitted by individuals with Principal Investigator status from any federally-recognized institution. Submissions from junior investigators and scientists new to primate research are especially encouraged. The program is also open, however, to investigators with established programs using nonhuman primates who wish to develop a substantially new research direction. Applications that incorporate experimental designs or methodologies that conserve animal numbers and optimize data from each animal, and that are consistent with the 3R's (reduction, refinement, replacement), are especially encouraged; a specific example is use of imaging technologies that facilitate data collection and minimize invasiveness. Unless the applicant has been a Principal Investigator on his/her own funded primate research project, the project must be planned, conducted, and carried out with the assistance of a Staff Scientist at the CNPRC, who will assist with the management and coordination of the project as needed. Potential applicants are requested to contact a Staff Scientist, Unit Leader, the CNPRC Director, or the Associate Director for Research (see contact information below) prior to submitting the Letter to discuss issues pertaining to resources, space, etc.

**Funds Available:** The Pilot Project Program provides funding for a small number of projects each year that are compatible with the goals and mission of the CNPRC and its research units. Projects are for one year duration, and must be completed within the year that funding is awarded. Small grant proposals (\$10,000 to \$20,000) are especially welcome in order to provide funding for a greater number of proposals and investigators. In 2008-2009, four projects totaling \$78,550 were funded. Because the purpose of the Pilot Program is to provide access to primate resources, allowable expenses include animal- (purchase and per diem) and laboratory-related costs (e.g., for Core services). Salary for the PI and travel are not permissible; salary support for technicians must be strongly justified if included. In general, all major activities related to the approved project must be conducted and carried out at the Center. Funds may not be used to provide interim support for established projects, for any projects that qualify for support from other sources, or to extend previously established work. PIs must provide evidence of salary support to justify percent effort on the project. Conditions of funding include the submission of a progress report in January, 2010 for inclusion in the Center's annual report, and reporting of grants and publications that develop from the pilot award on an as-requested basis. The CNPRC base grant (RR000169) must be acknowledged in any oral or written presentations of data obtained through this program.

**Application Procedures:** A Letter of Intent, including a short summary (no more than 1 page) with the title, aims and goals, and list of participating investigators (including the associated Staff Scientist), is requested by 5 PM (PT) Monday, March 30, 2009. Individuals submitting a Letter of Intent must have Principal Investigator status at their institution, and should indicate their present position title in their Letter. The Letter of Intent should be submitted to the CNPRC Director, the Associate Director for Research, or can be routed through a Staff Scientist to the Director's Office. Letters will be reviewed and ranked by the review committee (comprising Staff Scientists and external advisors), with full proposals requested from a subset of submitted Letters. Full proposals will then be

evaluated by the committee. Investigators submitting Letters of Intent should note that this process is competitive at two levels, for both the Letters and the full proposals.

**If a full proposal is requested**, specific information regarding format, content, and deadline will be provided. Briefly, however, the format identified below will be required, and full proposals (a maximum of five pages) will only be accepted in electronic format. No indirect costs will be permitted.

- Specific Aims and Hypotheses
- Background and Significance
- Experimental Plan
- Anticipated Results
- Potential Problems/Alternate Approaches
- Source of potential future funding
- Relevance to biomedical research and rationale for using nonhuman primates

**Review criteria**: Proposals will be evaluated for scientific merit (significance, approach, innovation), compatibility with the CNPRC mission, likelihood of the project leading to a successful NIH grant application, justification for using nonhuman primates, budget, and feasibility for conduct at the CNPRC.

**Inquiries**: Potential applicants are encouraged to contact individuals in the Director's Office (Director: Dallas Hyde, Ph.D., [dmhyde@primate.ucdavis.edu](mailto:dmhyde@primate.ucdavis.edu); Associate Director for Research: John Capitanio, Ph.D., [jpcapitanio@ucdavis.edu](mailto:jpcapitanio@ucdavis.edu)) or a Unit Leader at the CNPRC. The main number for the CNPRC is (530) 752-0447.

- Brain, Mind, and Behavior: Sally P. Mendoza, Ph.D. ([spmendoza@ucdavis.edu](mailto:spmendoza@ucdavis.edu))
- Reproductive Sciences and Regenerative Medicine: Alice F. Tarantal, Ph.D. ([aftarantal@primate.ucdavis.edu](mailto:aftarantal@primate.ucdavis.edu))
- Respiratory Diseases: Lisa A. Miller, Ph.D. ([lmiller@ucdavis.edu](mailto:lmiller@ucdavis.edu))
- Infectious Diseases: Peter A. Barry, Ph.D. ([pabarry@ucdavis.edu](mailto:pabarry@ucdavis.edu))

Staff Scientists are listed on our webpage under the links for research units (<http://www.primate.ucdavis.edu/pages/research/research.html>)

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