

UC Davis: Office of the Dean, School of Medicine

January 24, 2006

DEANS, DIRECTORS, AND DEPARTMENT CHAIRS

RE: Call for Applications: Building Interdisciplinary Research Careers in Women's Health

Building Interdisciplinary Research Careers in Women's Health (BIRCWH)

#### Call for Applications

Funding from the NIH-sponsored Building Interdisciplinary Research Careers in Women's Health (BIRCWH) Program is available to support career development of Ph.D. and M.D. researchers interested in Women's Health. The program will provide mentored faculty with multidisciplinary training to help them establish independent biomedical research careers in areas relevant to women's health and will create an environment that nurtures non-traditional interdisciplinary collaborations in focused and interactive research areas that are essential to improving the health of women.

Established researchers will mentor junior faculty in one of four interacting areas of women's health: (1) neuroscience and neurodegenerative diseases and their disproportionate impact on females, (2) metabolic and nutrition-related syndromes and their repercussions for women, (3) cardiovascular science and its relationship to gender, and (4) lifespan biology and transitions, such as early development, adolescence, and menopause, that bring unique risks to females.

Interdisciplinary Women's Health Research (IWHR) scholars in the BIRCWH program will devote a minimum of 75% of their professional time to women's health research studies and to developing an independent, federally-funded research program.

The grant will provide 75% salary support for up to two years for Ph.D. scholars (maximum of \$75,000) and for up to three years for M.D. scholars (maximum of \$100,000). In addition, scholars will receive \$10,000 for supplies and \$1,000 for travel.

#### Eligibility Criteria:

1. A tenure-track, in-residence, clinical or adjunct faculty appointment at UC Davis, with less than 5 years as a tenure-track faculty member at UC Davis or less than 12 years of postdoctoral experience for other applicants.
2. Evidence of interest, experience, and/or training in women's health and demonstrated potential for development as a successful independent researcher.
3. Commitment of laboratory space, and 75% protected time for women's health research from appropriate department, college, or school.
4. Commitment of funds from IWHR Scholar's department, college, or school to supplement BIRCWH salary commitment to ensure total salary consistent with UCD standards.
5. IWHR Scholar cannot be the Principal Investigator on an R01 or R21 grant or a K Award or be funded more than 50% as the PI on any grant.
6. The scholar must be a United States Citizen or non-citizen national, or have legal admission into the United States as a permanent citizen.

#### Application Process:

An application packet containing the following elements should be submitted:

- \* Completed application cover sheet, available from Ellen Tani (E-mail address below)
- \* One-page cover letter detailing career goals and how the BIRCWH program will contribute to those goals

- \* Two-page research proposal (plus references), 12 pt font, ¾ margins, including one paragraph on objectives, One paragraph on rationale, Methods, and One paragraph on significance to women's health
- \* Proposed timeline for project
- \* Proposed mentor(s), if known
- \* Recent NIH Bio Sketch
- \* Letter from department chair, with commitment to protect 75% of scholar's time toward BIRCWH, cosigned by division chief, if appropriate, and indicating provision of space needed to complete project
- \* Letter from chair or division chief, assessing applicant's potential

All proposals should be sent electronically to [ellen.tani@ucdmc.ucdavis.edu](mailto:ellen.tani@ucdmc.ucdavis.edu). In addition, one hard copy should be sent to:

Ellen Tani, BIRCWH Program Representative Office of the Dean School of Medicine 4150 V Street, Suite 1100 Sacramento, CA 95817

Deadline for Applications: February 24, 2006.

Review Criteria:

1. Potential of the applicant for a successful research career in Women's Health.
  - a) Importance of the research proposal
  - b) Likelihood of obtaining subsequent funding
2. Impact of BIRCWH program on career goals
3. Additional considerations to ensure a diverse pool of IRWH Scholar pool
  - a) Broad recruitment of candidates with emphasis on minorities
  - b) Attempts to achieve diversity (in research areas, disciplines, gender, ethnicity) in the scholar pool

Starting Date: April 1, 2006

Claire Pomeroy  
Vice Chancellor for Human Health Sciences and Dean of the School of Medicine

Directive #06-014