Background and Purpose

The Dean's Office understands that maintaining productive programs during periods of funding lapse is critical for future success. The Bridge Funding Program (BFP) was established by the CoM to provide short-term bridge- or "gap"- funding for established and productive CoM researchers who have had previous NIH funding, and who have remained active in research and in submitting grant applications, but who are now between funding cycles. This program is one of the most successful in the CoM for sustaining our research mission. We are happy to announce another call for applications for the BFP 2015.

Funding Priorities, Eligibility and Other Procedures

- The BFP is a peer reviewed competition open to all UC-paid, CoM full-time faculty. Qualified investigators must have a grant application pending with the NIH (new or competitive renewal), that was submitted through the CoM Operations & Finance group (i.e. a "UC CoM" proposal).
- Priority will be given to productive researchers with a solid history of NIH funding who have lost a major source of funding. Grant applications that have been reviewed, but not scored (i.e. triaged) will not be considered for bridge funding.
- Applications will be reviewed for scientific merit by a panel of UC faculty members who will recommend those for funding to the CoM Research Cabinet, who will make the final award decisions.
- The number of proposals funded will be a function of funds available, and the numbers of meritorious, qualified applications received. Awards in the range of $30,000 – $50,000 for one year to support supplies and core usage; technician, student, and/or postdoc salaries are anticipated. The BFP is targeted to those investigators that have competitive proposals and are on the brink of funding, and so project periods of longer than one year will not be considered.
- Funds cannot be used for faculty salaries, travel, or equipment and must be spent within one year. Unspent funds, or funds that have not yet been used when external funding is received, will be reclaimed by the CoM for redistribution.
- Applicants must be nominated by their department chairperson. Departmental contributions toward gap funding should be detailed and will be considered when making funding decisions.
- There is no limit on the number of applications/nominations per department or on the number of awards per department.

Applications must be submitted electronically through the SUBMISSION PORTAL by 5:00pm on February 15, 2016. Awards will be announced by March 15, 2016.

- The following documentation must be submitted with the application:
  - Letter of support from chairperson
  - Copy of pending NIH grant application abstract and reviewer critique
  - Curriculum vitae of faculty nominee including “Other Support”
  - Faculty statement of what would be the effect on their research program if no bridge funding were available
  - Budget, with full budget justification for each item

If you have any questions, please contact Brieanne Sheehan at sheehabe@ucmail.uc.edu; 558-7564 with any questions.