Announcement
A Request for Proposals for the American Cancer Society Institutional Research Grant Competition

General Information:
The IU Simon Cancer Center is pleased to announce the availability of funds for new pilot projects to assist new investigators who hold the rank of Assistant Professor, Research Assistant Professor, or Assistant Scientist but without an active (i.e., NIH, NSF, ACS) national competitive research grant, regardless of the topic. These funds are from the American Cancer Society Institutional Research Grant (ACSIRG). This grant provides support for beginning investigators to enable them to initiate their independent research program.

The purpose of the ACSIRG program is to attract new investigators from Indiana University into cancer research and to provide support for new pilot studies that will produce preliminary data for the investigator to develop into studies that will compete successfully for external, national funds from both federal and private sources. Faculty from the School of Medicine and its regional campuses, Schools of Nursing, Dentistry, Optometry, Public and Environmental Affairs, Health and Rehabilitation Sciences, Liberal Arts, Law, Science, and Informatics are especially encouraged to apply.

Funding:
• Funding is available for four pilot projects, beginning June 1, 2016, in amounts up to $40,000.
• Special funds also are available for one additional pilot study in the amount of $40,000 with a focus on pediatric oncology.
• All funds MUST be allocated and spent by December 31, 2016; thus, investigators should tailor their pilot project so that it is completed within six months, rather than the usual one year. NO extensions will be allowed (per ACS guidelines).

Eligibility:
Applications are invited from faculty with ranks of Assistant Professor, Research Assistant Professor, or Assistant Scientist. Proposals MUST describe new pilot studies in cancer research. ACS Guidelines specify that applicants with prior funding from the ACSIRG or with significant funding from other sources are NOT eligible to apply (Applicants may have funding from foundation grants as long as the grant is not the result of a national peer-reviewed competition and is for support of a different project). Applicants who have been awarded previous funding are encouraged to check their funding status with Crystal Munson (crybanks@iupui.edu) prior to the initiation of an application.

APPLICANTS MUST BE U.S. CITIZENS, OR SUBMIT PROOF OF APPROVAL FOR A GREEN CARD.

Application Information and Guidelines:
• All applications must present a clear plan for pursuing external funding based on the pilot project you submit to the ACS IRG.
• The body of the proposal must not exceed 6 pages and follow standard NIH format. Appendices may not be more than 4 pages. Proposals must follow formatting guidelines of fonts of Helvetica or Arial, font size 11 point or larger and ½ inch margins. Sections to cover in the body of the proposal (6 pages total):
  ✔ Hypothesis and Aims
  ✔ Background and Rationale for Pilot Study
  ✔ High Level Description of Research Design/Methods/Data Collection (Note: Make sure to include a description of 1) What preliminary data you feel are needed that would allow you to submit for external funding; and 2) Statistical plan/rationale)
  ✔ Potential sources for external funding
  ✔ Therapeutic Indication/Target Population
Following the body of the grant:
- References **not** included in the 6 page limit
- Budget and Budget Justification **not** included in 6 page limit

- Applications from Research Assistant Professors and Assistant Scientists require a letter from the department Chair certifying that the research proposal is independent of the research program of the laboratory P.I.
- Proposals which exceed the page numbers or fail to follow the formatting guidelines will be returned to the investigator without review

Due to the parent ACS-IRG grant cycle, funds awarded to pilot proposals in 2016 will need to have all the money spent by December 31, 2016. Since funds will not be awarded until June 1st, investigators are asked to propose pilot projects that are limited to six months duration. If IRB or IACUC approval is needed for the project, it **MUST** be submitted and approved **BEFORE** May 1, 2016.

**Post Award Requirements:**
Successful applicants will be required to:
- Provide six month and annual progress reports, including information on publications, grants and intellectual property for a total of five years
- Present their research at an interactive poster session during the IUSCC’s Cancer Research Day
- Participate in at least one service opportunity sponsored by the ACS **within the twelve month period following the award of funding**
- Acknowledge receipt of ACS support in any presentation or publication of work funded by the ACSIRG Grant Mechanism.

**Criteria for Review:**
1. Cancer relatedness
2. Scientific merit
3. Potential for subsequent peer reviewed funding

**Proposal Submission Timeline:**
- Completed Application Due: **May 1, 2016**
- Funding Start Date: **June 1, 2016**

An electronic copy of the completed submission in .PDF format should be submitted to:

Crystal Munson  
Translational Research Coordinator  
crybanks@iupui.edu