Request for Applications
Interdisciplinary Pilot Studies in Translational Science and Biomedical Innovations
MU Colleges of Medicine, Engineering, Veterinary Medicine, and Mizzou Advantage

The MU colleges of Medicine, Engineering, Veterinary Medicine, and Mizzou Advantage announce the availability of funds for pilot projects in translational science and biomedical innovations. To be eligible for these Interdisciplinary Pilot Funds, proposals must reflect strong collaboration across Engineering, Veterinary Medicine, and Medicine (at least two schools/colleges). The goal is to support projects that, if successful, will be highly competitive for external funding. Studies with a strong, central theme of translational research and/or biomedical innovation will be given highest priority for funding. Key elements for this funding opportunity include the following:

1. Bi-directional research themes from the laboratory, to the clinic, to the community; translational research is inherently collaborative and interdisciplinary in nature.

2. Advancement of novel findings obtained from basic research into testable hypotheses for eventual evaluation in animal or human subjects, including studies with a central theme of biomedical innovation.

3. Clinical investigation in which knowledge obtained from basic research with genes, cells, or animals is translated into diagnostic or therapeutic interventions that can be applied to the improvement of animal or human health.

4. The process of applying ideas, insights, and discoveries generated through basic scientific inquiry to the treatment or prevention of disease, including animal studies that are aimed at problems of animal or human health. The utility of translational research is usually determined on the basis of the likelihood that successful completion of the proposed work will move towards effective therapies.

5. Innovative studies in which engineering methodologies are used to address unmet clinical needs in animals or humans.

**Eligibility.** Faculty can compete for pilot funds to support new research programs or to advance existing programs in strategic ways. Funding for novel methods, break-through science, or biomedical innovation will be given a high priority; interdisciplinary collaboration involving Medicine, Engineering, or Veterinary Medicine (at least two schools/colleges) will be required to be eligible for this pilot and collaborative research opportunity. Involvement of clinicians (e.g., as collaborators or consultants) is strongly recommended.

**Funding.** Funding for projects will not exceed $50,000. Awards will not support the following: salaries or stipends of faculty; graduate research stipends for greater than 50% time; travel to meetings or symposia; construction or remodeling of facilities; indirect costs; secretarial support; general departmental supplies; or projects of longer than one-year in duration. Funding for statistical support is allowable.

**Selection Criteria.** The selection criteria will be as follows:
1. Scientific excellence
2. Relevance to translational science and/or biomedical innovation
3. Evidence of strong interdisciplinary, collaborative participation
4. Evidence of innovation and/or transformational potential
5. Qualifications and potential of applicant
6. Potential for development of a competitive extramural application
7. Potential for eventual healthcare application for animals or humans

**Review Process.** A Scientific Peer Review Committee will review applications according to the NIH scoring system. The application process will require well-developed proposals that follow the outline of the Application Form [http://medicine.missouri.edu/research/uploads/Application-2016-10-17.doc].

**Deadline for Applications.** Full applications must be received by 5:00pm on January 20, 2017. Please submit applications to Debbie Taylor, taylord@health.missouri.edu. Copies of forms and guidelines can be obtained at http://medicine.missouri.edu/research/awards.html.