



Research Tips

University of Colorado Denver

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Stimulus Funding Update (ARRA)

As of August 25, 2009, UCDenver submitted 569 grant proposals to NIH. Thus far 49 have been funded for a total of \$17,412,711.

New University Veterinarian and Director of our Animal Facilities Clinical and Research Programs

Jori Leszczynski, DVM, DACLAM, has been appointed University Veterinarian at UCDenver. She is also Director of all Clinical and Academic Programs in the Center for Comparative Medicine (CCM) and the Office of Laboratory Animal Research (OLAR). Jori received her BS in 1995 from Ohio State University and her DVM in 1999 from Ohio State University College of Veterinary Medicine. She became a Diplomate of the American College of Laboratory Animal Medicine in 2004. Prior to coming to UCDenver, Jori was Director of the Animal Facility at National Jewish where she did a great job. Prior to coming to National Jewish, Jori was Associate Director of the Animal Center at the Cleveland Clinic. In her position here at UCDenver, she will oversee our animal facilities at AMC, DDC, and Denver Health. If you have any problems with our animal facility, please call Jori at 303-724-3987 (jori.leszczynski@ucdenver.edu).



New Director of IACUC Office

Mark A. Douse, PhD has been appointed Director of the IACUC Office. Our previous Director, Margaret Turner, will retire at the end of August. Mark received his BS and MS in Zoology from the University of British Columbia in 1981 and 1985, respectively. He received his PhD in Veterinary Science from the University of Wisconsin in 1990. Mark was formerly the IACUC Administrator and Director of the IACUC Office from 1996 to 2005 before being appointed to the position as Director of Laboratory Animal Medicine Resources. He now returns to his position as Director of the IACUC Office. Please contact Dr. Douse if you are having any difficulty with IACUC protocols (303-724-2313; Mark.Douse@UCDenver.edu).

Dr. T's Corner

Welcome to the new Research Tips Newsletter from the Office of the Vice Chancellor of Research (Richard J. Traystman, PhD). I have wanted to begin such a newsletter for some time, and with so many important research items at the forefront of our institution, now is the right time. The newsletter will appear every two weeks and will contain important research tips concerning: the vivarium, grants and contracts, compliance, IRB and IACUC, and ongoing research at UCDenver. Research tips will be informational, hopefully useful, and the tips will be short. The entire newsletter will be only 2 pages so it will not take long to read, and hopefully it will provide important, useful information concerning the research enterprise at UCDenver. If you have any comments concerning this newsletter or how it can be improved, please let me know (richard.traystman@ucdenver.edu).



Office of Grants and Contracts

UCD faculty have received a significant number of awards funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). These awards have unique reporting requirements in addition to customary sponsor award reports. PIs will receive an e-mail from OGC every 90 days requesting updates on the number of new and retained jobs that result from the award along with a brief progress report. Thank you in advance for responding to these quarterly update requests required by federal law.

The second phase of the InfoEd Grant Module will be implemented during fall 2009. This phase, called Proposal Development or PD, will involve electronic routing and electronic proposal development within InfoEd. We look forward to working with Principal Investigators and Research Administrators to implement PD. OGC will be contacting Schools, Colleges, Centers and Departments to begin training soon.

Research Corner

John Sladek, PhD received an RO1 from NINDS to study nigrostriatal tract reconstruction. The debilitating motor symptoms of Parkinson's disease can be ameliorated by intracerebral grafts of fetal dopamine neurons placed into the target region of the nigrostriatal pathway. Although these implanted cells grow normally, and release dopamine, they are not in a neuroanatomical location to be regulated by the normal inputs to this pathway. Thus, some patients experience dyskinesias believed to result from unregulated release of dopamine. Dr. Sladek proposes an alternate approach that attempts to reconstruct the neural pathway at risk with multiple "bridge" grafts that stimulate long distance growth of the damaged pathway. This research stems from his findings in a non-human primate model of parkinsonism wherein he was able to coax dopaminergic neurites to grow the full distance of the pathway by the use of "stepping stones" of embryonic tissue. He will test various combinations of multiple grafts to take advantage of naturally occurring growth factors produced by the embryonic target grafts. If successful this work will form an essential test of whether tract reconstruction will result in behavioral improvement in a rodent model of parkinsonism and could lead to translational attempts in non-human primates and eventually humans.

New Per Diem Rates Go Into Effect September 1, 2009

After an extensive cost study performed by representatives from the Budget Office and OLAR, new per diem rates have been set for the 2009-2010 Fiscal Year. Due to chronic budget shortfalls that must be corrected according to NIH Cost Analysis and Rate Setting Manual (http://www.ncrr.nih.gov/publications/comparative_medicineCARS.pdf) all per diems will increase from 15 – 20%. This will take our most common rate, the Mouse Ventilated cost center, from \$0.57 per cage per day to \$0.66 per cage per day. Although this increase seems large, it still keeps the rate in line with other institutions in the area and around the country. All of the per diem rates, as well as comparison rates, can be found on the OLAR website http://www.uchsc.edu/animal/olar_index.htm.

ORDE

Feel free to contact the Office of Research Development and Education (ORDE) to set up a personalized fund search. We will be happy to help you in locating potential external funding sources for your research. We also offer faculty seminars covering fund searching and proposal development. Please visit our website at <http://research.cudenver.edu> for 2009-10 tentative schedule of faculty seminars and events offered.

New Requirements for Controlled Drugs

New Requirements for Controlled Drugs Mean Principal Investigators Must Obtain Their Own DEA License. The Drug Enforcement Agency is now requiring that all researchers that wish to use controlled substances obtain their own DEA license and manage their own controlled drug supply. Therefore, the University and OLAR have revised current policy to be in line with what DEA is asking us to do. This policy is available through the OLAR Website and is effective July 1, 2009. DEA has granted the University time for all researchers to be in compliance. Therefore, OLAR will assist research staff with their controlled drug needs until the lab is able to obtain a DEA license as long as the lab can prove that they are actively pursuing a DEA license. OLAR will continue to supply non-controlled substances to labs during this time.

It is recommended that research staff that do not have an existing pharmacy contact the Hospital In-Patient Pharmacy to obtain their controlled substances. You can call, e-mail or fax an order. Orders are usually ready within 24 hours. You will need to bring the original Invoice and Order form with speedtype and if ordering a schedule II drug, the DEA 222 form.

- Contact Juan Moncada; Juan.moncada@uch.edu; Phone - 720-848-4270; Fax - 720-848-4273
- Pick up is Anschutz In-patient pavilion basement level - B015

In addition, the Environmental Health and Safety Department has several resources on their website <http://www.uchsc.edu/safety/ComplianceNotes/index.htm> EHS can perform the service of disposing all pharmaceuticals, so you will not be required to obtain a secondary permit for this. This form is located at <http://www.uchsc.edu/safety/Forms/HWForms.htm>

COMIRB

The 5 best ways to contact COMIRB for AMC and Affiliates:

1. Use the help desk for general questions - 303-724-1055
2. For questions regarding education or training requirements - contact Monica Devine at 303-724-1011
3. Call the panel coordinators or expedited team with specific questions relating to an existing protocol - all contact numbers are on the COMIRB website at <http://comirbweb.uchsc.edu/portal/>
4. If you have a complicated study or specific problem to discuss either attend the brown bag sessions (3rd Thursday of each month from 12:00 - 1:00) or contact Bernie Pistone to schedule a meeting. K. C. Clevenger is also available to help investigators address issues with pediatric protocols at 720-777-4529.
5. Remember the COMIRB website at <http://comirbweb.uchsc.edu/portal/> is a good resource for information and forms.