The Center for Women’s Health Research (CWHR) and the Specialized Center of Research on Sex Differences (SCOR) Grant Opportunities for 2013-2014

University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus

TO: Deans, Department Chairpersons, Department Heads, Division Heads, Principal Investigators, Faculty, Administrators, and Supervisors

FROM: Judith G. Regensteiner, Ph.D., Director, JoAnn Lindenfeld, MD, Associate Director, Center for Women’s Health Research (CWHR), Wendy M Kohrt, PhD (SCOR Principal Investigator) and the CWHR/SCOR Grant Review Committee

SUBJECT: Call for Applications for:
- CWHR Faculty Research Development Grants
- Helen J. Mitchell Award in Women’s Heart Disease
- Jacqueline Marie Leaffer CWHR Prize in Cardiology
- SCOR Pilot Grants

DEADLINE: July 19, 2013

A. Grants to be awarded

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Award</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Eligibility</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CWHR Junior Faculty Research Development</td>
<td>$25,000</td>
<td>CU-AMC full-time faculty and postdoctoral fellows</td>
<td>Advance careers of junior investigators in women’s health research on cardiovascular disease and diabetes</td>
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<tr>
<td>(4)</td>
<td>each</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Helen J. Mitchell Award in Women’s Heart Disease</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
<td>Same as above</td>
<td>Fund research on women’s heart disease</td>
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<td>(1)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Jacqueline M. Leaffer CWHR Prize in Cardiology</td>
<td>$750</td>
<td>Same as above</td>
<td>Acknowledge research achievements in women’s health focused on cardiovascular health and disease</td>
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<tr>
<td>(1)</td>
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<tr>
<td>SCOR Pilot Grants</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
<td>Same as above</td>
<td>Promote translational research on the gonadal regulation of bioenergetics and metabolism</td>
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<tr>
<td>(2)</td>
<td>each</td>
<td></td>
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</table>
B. Description of awards

1. THE CWHR Faculty Research Development Awards: Four 1-year grants of $25,000 each will be awarded to exceptional junior investigators for the conduct of research focused in areas that will help improve the diagnosis, treatment, or management of cardiovascular disease and/or diabetes in women. Any disease or physiological question will be considered if it involves cardiovascular disease or diabetes in some way (e.g., cardiovascular complications of rheumatoid arthritis). Priority will be given to grants that focus on:
   - cardiovascular disease in adult women including, but not limited to:
     - sex differences in cardiovascular disease
     - cardiovascular implications of the menopause
   - female sex hormones with relevance to cardiovascular disease and/or diabetes
   - Type 1 and/or Type 2 diabetes in adults or children

Eligible applicants may be performing laboratory, clinical, translational, prevention or epidemiology/health services research. These awards are made possible by donations to the CWHR from the School of Medicine, private foundations, and individual donors. Because the long-term goal of these awards is to enable investigators to pursue a career in women’s health research in the areas of cardiovascular disease or diabetes, priority for this award is reserved for applicants in early career stages (including junior faculty and postdoctoral fellows). However, more senior faculty will be considered if there is a clear reason why this type of funding would provide benefit to their research. All junior faculty/postdoctoral fellows must have a mentor and include their mentor plans.

Priority will be given to applicants who demonstrate promise for future extramural funding. Applicants can have other funding but must show a clear reason why they would benefit from this grant.

Applicants must be actively engaged in research in the areas prioritized for this proposal. Because the support is for one year, applicants must demonstrate that their current work is likely to yield publishable results within that time period.

2. Helen J. Mitchell Award in Women’s Heart Disease was given by Helen Jean Mitchell to promote research in women’s heart disease. This $10,000 award can be used for project support only. No salary will be allowed.

3. The Jacqueline M. Leaffer CWHR Prize in Cardiology has been endowed by Karen and Steven Leaffer of Denver, Colorado, in honor of their late daughter, Jacqueline Marie, as part of her legacy to improve the future of women’s health. The $750 award will be made to a faculty member doing outstanding work in women’s heart health research. Recipients will be selected based on research funding obtained, papers written, discoveries made and other efforts demonstrating progress in women’s heart health.

Applicants for all CWHR awards must agree to present their data at a venue or venues specified by the Center for Women’s Health Research.
4. SCOR Pilot Grants

The NIH Office of Research on Women’s Health supports 11 Specialized Centers Of Research on Sex Differences around the country. The thematic focus of the CU-AMC SCOR is on *Bioenergetic and Metabolic Consequences of the Loss of Gonadal Function*. Pilot grant applications must be scientifically aligned with this theme. Applications for projects that are ancillary to ongoing research being conducted within the SCOR (e.g., use of samples or tissues generated in the parent study) will also be considered. The ongoing SCOR research projects are:

- Bioenergetic and metabolic consequences of the loss of gonadal function in women (PI: Wendy Kohrt, PhD)
- Effects of pre-existing obesity on consequences of the loss of ovarian function in rats (PI: Paul MacLean, PhD)
- Sex hormones differentially regulate production of distinct adipocyte populations in mice (PI: Dwight Klemm, PhD)

If an ancillary project is being considered, please contact the PIs for further information about the ongoing projects and ancillary research opportunities. Applications for ancillary projects must include the PI of the parent study as a co-investigator.

Two 1-year SCOR Pilot Grants of up to $20,000 each will be awarded. All applications must include a junior (postdoctoral fellow or junior faculty) and senior investigator team and a plan for the project to generate at least one first-authored publication for the junior investigator. The intent is to spark the interest of investigators early in their careers on sex differences and women’s health.

C. Application Guidelines

1. **CWHF Faculty Research Development Grants and Helen J. Mitchell Award in Women’s Heart Disease**

**Format:** Applications must have one-inch margins and use 12-point font with no more than an average of 12 characters per inch.

- **Face Page:** Provide the name of the Applicant and Mentor (required for postdoctoral fellows, instructors, and assistant professors), including academic positions, schools, departments and contact information (email, phone, fax, campus location and campus mailing address).

- **Abstract:** Briefly describe the proposed research and research career goals.

- **Budget:** Include a detailed budget request for the award with all costs justified. The Award can be used for salary support and/or project support.
• **Biographical Sketch (NIH Form 398):** Biographical sketches for both the Applicant and Mentor are required; include all current and pending research support.

• **Description of Applicant(s) Career Goals:** Describe career goals and how the CWHR Faculty Research Development Award will help in attaining them.

• **Role of the Applicant’s Mentor (for Junior Faculty/Postdoctoral Fellows):** Describe the Mentor’s role during the period of the award, including a mentorship plan.

• **Description of Proposed Research.** A complete but concise (no more than 4 pages, single-spaced) description of the Applicant’s ongoing and proposed work must be included. Separate sections should be devoted to Specific Aims, Background and Significance, Preliminary Studies, Experimental Design and Methods, and References Cited. All figures, tables and other relevant data should be included within the body of the proposal (i.e., no appendices). However, references can be in addition to the 4-page limit. The importance of the proposed work, its relevance to women’s health in terms of cardiovascular disease and/or diabetes, translational impact and potential for generating further funded research should be included. One pre/reprint may be included.

• **Other Factors and Assurances.** Letters of support from the Mentor (for Junior Faculty) and Department Chair or Division Head are required, stating the Institutional commitment to the Applicant and the availability of the requisite space and other forms of support (e.g., laboratory space, salary, technical assistance).

2. **Jacqueline Marie Leaffer CWHR Prize in Cardiology**

A 2-page application is requested providing overall research goals and direction of applicant’s research as well as information about the applicant. Applications will be reviewed by an appointed committee of the CWHR with results being announced as stated. All publications, abstracts, or similar communications must acknowledge the support received from the CWHR.

3. **SCOR Pilot Grants**

**Format:** Applications must have one-inch margins and use 12-point font with no more than an average of 12 characters per inch.

• **Face Page:** Provide the name of the junior and senior investigators, including academic positions, schools, departments and contact information (email, phone, fax, campus location and campus mailing address).

• **Abstract:** Briefly describe the proposed research and research career goals.
• **Budget**: Include a detailed budget request for the award with all costs justified. The Award can be used for project support and salary support of technical personnel only (cannot be used for investigator salary).

• **Biographical Sketch (NIH Form 398)**: Biographical sketches for all investigators are required.

• **Description of Proposed Research**. Provide a complete but concise description of the proposed project, including Specific Aims, Significance, Innovation, Approach (maximum of 4 pages total for these components), References (no page limit), and Protection of Human Subjects or Animal Safety (follow NIH guidelines for these sections; no page limit). The importance of the proposed work, its relevance to the theme of the SCOR, and the potential for the project to lead to further extramural support should be addressed. All figures, tables, and other relevant data should be included within the body of the proposal (i.e., no appendices).

• **Other Factors and Assurances**. Letters of support from the senior investigator and Department Chair or Division Head are required, stating the Institutional commitment to the applicant and the availability of the requisite space and other forms of support (e.g., laboratory space, salary, technical assistance).

   c. **Other stipulations**: Recipients of the awards (other than the Leaffer Prize) must submit a mid-term report on progress to date, including challenges and successes. Recipients must also submit a final report summarizing the results of their studies supported by the grant or meeting attendance, including plans for and attempts to secure additional funding for the project(s). Copies of all publications and a list of those anticipated should be included. Final reports must be submitted within 60 days of the conclusion of the grant to: Judith G. Regensteiner, Ph.D., judy.regensteiner@ucdenver.edu for CWHR awards and Wendy Kohrt, Ph.D., wendy.kohrt@ucdenver.edu for SCOR awards.

Applications are due on July 19, 2013. The Awards will be made for one year, beginning on September, 2013. The CWHR/SCOR Research Awards Committee will evaluate applications, and the Committee will notify the 2013 Awardees.

**Applications must be submitted electronically** to judy.regensteiner@ucdenver.edu along with one hardcopy of the complete application delivered in person or by mail to Rachel Aerne, UCD Mail Stop B-180. Both copies must be received no later than July 19, 2013.

**Please address any questions about CWHR-funded grants to**: Dr. Judith Regensteiner (judy.regensteiner@ucdenver.edu) and SCOR-funded grants to Dr. Wendy Kohrt (wendy.kohrt@ucdenver.edu)