Outstanding Early Career Scholars Program (OECSP)

The Department of Medicine (DOM) at the University of Colorado is pleased to announce the establishment of a program to accelerate the career development of exceptionally creative and promising faculty early in their career. The Outstanding Early Career Scholars Program is designed to invest in the career development of each Scholar, and is not limited to a specific research project or scholarly activity. This is not a pilot project program.

Outstanding Early Career Scholars will be expected to commit 75% of their effort to scholarly activities. The Program will provide each Scholar with $75,000 annually for up to 5 years. These funds will only be used to support the career development, research, or innovative work of the Scholar. These funds cannot be used to support or supplement the Scholar’s salary. We anticipate funding between 5 and 10 Scholars over the next several years. Progress will be evaluated at 2 years, at which time a decision will be made to continue support of the Scholar for the full 5 years.

Eligibility:
- Applicants must be at the level of Assistant Professor with fewer than four years in rank at the time of submission (years in rank include aggregate appointment as an Assistant Professor at any institution)
- Applicants must hold the MD, DO, PhD, or DVM-equivalent degree
- Applicants must have a primary appointment in the University of Colorado DOM, and must be working at either UCD, VA, Denver Health, National Jewish Health, or PSL
- Applicants must be engaged in highly creative, hypothesis-driven investigation or highly innovative clinical or educational program development
- The Division Head must pledge to contribute $25,000 to the OECSP annually and protect 75% of the effort/time of the applicant for the duration of the Scholar’s appointment
- Individuals from traditionally under-represented communities are strongly encouraged to apply

Guidelines:
- A title page and a 200-word abstract
- Up to three (3) pages of narrative text (excluding references) addressing the following:
  - Vision for career development with reference to relevant accomplishments
  - Limitations to career development
  - Plans to promote career development, including a mentorship plan
  - Anticipated impact of research or program
  - Anticipated impact of research or program on the DOM and SOM
  - No budget is required
- A full, updated CV
- Up to three letters of recommendation (at least 1 from outside the CU system)
- A nomination letter from the candidate’s Division Head

Anticipated Outcome:
- Objective accomplishments including high impact papers, R01 or R01-equivalent grant support, HHMI Investigatorship, and election to ASCI
- Initiation of novel areas of research or innovation
- Demonstrable development of career vision including relevant accomplishments
- Demonstrable evidence that this investment enriched the DOM and SOM

Applications will be evaluated by an ad hoc committee composed of non-conflicted DOM and SOM faculty. Complete applications are due by December 1, 2011 (5 PM), should be submitted electronically as a PDF, and a decision will be announced by February 1, 2012.

Questions should be addressed to: Sean Colgan, PhD; sean.colgan@ucdenver.edu; 303-724-7235
Please send application materials to: Linda Neese; linda.neese@ucdenver.edu; 303-724-1783