UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
DRUG DISCOVERY CONSORTIUM (UC DDC)
SEED FUNDING AWARDS

Cycle 1

PURPOSE
UC DDC is an initiative supported by the University of California Office of the President to assist faculty researchers in the creation of drugs to address important unmet medical needs. UC DCC facilitates access to drug discovery resources across all UC campuses. Financial support for UC DCC is made available through a Multicampus Research Programs and Initiatives (MRPI) award.

A key activity of UC DDC is to provide seed funding that will enable faculty members with promising ideas to advance drug discovery or drug development projects. The projects may be a spin-off or progression of the faculty member’s basic science research. Data generated with seed funding from UC DCC is intended to position the faculty member to pursue federal, philanthropic or commercial support to further advance the drug discovery effort. The seed funding can be used to support drug discovery activities of the faculty member and also to access core drug discovery resources at any University of California campus. UC DCC will provide grantees with advice and mentoring on how best to pursue drug discovery and development for their chosen project.

Projects from any therapeutic area are invited. Projects seeking to develop small molecules or biologicals are eligible. The tasks to be undertaken can range from early target identification and high throughput screening to the later stages of non-clinical development. The seed funding program is not intended to support clinical research. Principal investigators must be employed at one of the MRPI grant campuses: Davis, Irvine, Los Angeles, San Diego, and San Francisco.

The first funding cycle of the UC DCC seed grant program will provide one year of support beginning late Fall, 2017. Funding must be spent within 1 year. Grants will only be renewed in exceptional circumstances. Awardees will be invited to present at the annual UC DDC Symposium.
SPECIFICS

The Award: Up to $50,000 in grant support for a period of up to 12 months, as well as mentoring and project management support.

Eligibility: Faculty in all series and ranks at UC Davis, UC Irvine, UCLA, UC San Diego, and UC San Francisco are eligible. Postdoctoral scholars, project scientists, and staff researchers are not eligible to serve as principal investigator of a UC DCC seed award unless they have been granted principal investigator status on their campus. Researchers who are UC scientists but not faculty can be listed as co-principal investigators.

Requirements: Projects should have have existing or imminent target validation in animal systems or human cell lines and a clear clinical indication. All therapeutic areas where there is an unmet medical need or the potential for significant improvement over current treatments are acceptable.

Selection Process and Review: Applicants will first submit a Letter of Intent (LOI) to their respective Site Leads (below), who will select up to three proposals from each campus to go forward as full applications. All full applications will be reviewed by a committee consisting of all representatives from the MRPI grant campuses, along with disease and platform experts from academia and industry who will be under a non-disclosure confidentiality agreement. A maximum of six projects will be funded in this cycle.

APPLICATION

LETTER OF INTENT
Submit LOIs to your campus email address listed below by 5 p.m. PST July 31, 2017. Contact your Site Leader at the bottom of this page if you have questions.

Submission email:
grants_ucd@ucdrugdiscovery.org
grants_uci@ucdrugdiscovery.org
grants_ucla@ucdrugdiscovery.org
grants_ucsd@ucdrugdiscovery.org
grants_ucs@ucdrugdiscovery.org

Letter of Intent format
1. Title of research proposal
2. Names, titles, institutions, telephone numbers and emails of PIs and Co-PIs
3. 0.5 page description of project, including specific aims, methods, plan for IP development, and plan for product development.
INVITED APPLICATION. Applicants will be informed that they have been chosen to progress to the full application stage by Aug 7. The application must be submitted by 5 p.m. PST on Aug 31, 2017. The following information is required:

1. Title of research proposal
2. Names, titles, institutions, telephone numbers and emails of PIs and Co-PIs
3. Relevant IBC, IRB, and/or IACUC protocol number and status, if any
4. Abstract (300 words maximum)
5. Proposal narrative (two-page maximum). The narrative should be organized using the headings below. Each area must be addressed.
   a. Significance – Describe the scope and nature of the problem you are trying to solve. Clearly state the unmet need being addressed by the technology and provide evidence to support the need from multiple stakeholder perspectives (e.g., scientist, patient, clinician and payer).
   b. Innovation and Impact – Describe your proposed solution and what is innovative about it. Define the impact you hope to accomplish using metrics most appropriate for you (e.g., morbidity, mortality, costs).
   c. Work Plan and Aims – Describe the proposed project and its aims, target completion date(s) and deliverables.
   d. Project Risks and Risk Mitigation – Anticipate and address potential problems, both for the Work Plan and Aims and for the broader project.
   e. Funding - Define the funding requirements for the proposed project beyond this seed award and the plan for further funding.
6. Commercial Assessment Form (to be completed with the campus TTO). Applicants are encouraged to plan on completing this form two weeks before the application is due to ensure they will meet the deadline. Link to forms in next section. Describe the extent of interactions with the technology transfer office and how the IP is connected to the commercialization plan. Please include a list of the various types of IP filed or granted where applicable. This should include the following information if IP has been filed: (1) Patent application number, issued patent number, trademark registration number, copyright number, etc; (2) Title: status and date; (3) For a patent/patent application, the major types of claims (e.g., drug and method of treating asthma; independent claim to the generic compound and dependent claims to specific species of the compound). (4) Any licenses signed that involve this IP.
7. NIH biosketch. Provide biosketches of PI and Co-PIs. Use PHS 398 NIH Biographical Sketch (link below). There is a five-page maximum for each biosketch.
8. Budget and Budget Justification, for the 12-month grant period, link below. Refer to the table below for allowable costs. The justification should provide information on related projects that are currently funded. Priority will be given to projects that have no overlap with existing funding. Total costs (direct plus indirect) for subawards to other institutions must be included within the total $50,000 direct cost budget maximum.
There are no Indirect costs to UC campuses for this award. The budget form and justification will not count against the application page limit.

9 Product Profile. Download the Therapeutic Target Product Profile (TPP) linked below and complete all applicable portions. These are intended to be a description of the final preferably commercializable product. *Product profiles do not count towards the proposal page limit; however, each section of the TPP has a word limit. If you have questions about how to complete the product profile, please request a consultation with your site leader.* Site leader contact information can be found in the “Questions” section at the bottom.

**Technical Requirements and Links to Forms:** Applications should be prepared using 11-point Arial font with half-inch margins on all sides formatted to 8½ inch x 11 inch paper. Letters of Support are not accepted. Abstract, literature citations, budget form, and TPP will not be counted towards the proposal two-page limit. Please assemble your proposal in the following order.

1-3. **Coversheet**
4. Abstract, 300 words maximum
5. Narrative, 2 pages not including literature citations.
6. **Commercial Assessment Form**
7. **NIH Biosketch Form(s)**
8. **Budget** and **Budget Justification**
9. **Target Product Profile (TPP) Form** (100 words maximum per section). The TPP is a description of the final product.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Budget*</th>
<th>Allowable</th>
<th>Not Allowable</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PI Salary and Benefits</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
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<tr>
<td>Post-doctoral Fellow Salary and Benefits</td>
<td>X</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research Staff Support (e.g., SRA, Laboratory Technician) Salary and Benefits</td>
<td>X</td>
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<tr>
<td>K Career Development Awardees Salary Support</td>
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<td>X</td>
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<tr>
<td>Core Facility Costs, Consultants and Subcontracting</td>
<td>X</td>
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<td>Administrative Support</td>
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<td>Supplies</td>
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<td>Equipment</td>
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<td>Software</td>
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<td>Personal Computers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mailing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Criteria</td>
<td>Review Questions</td>
<td>Location Within the Proposal</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuition</td>
<td>- limited to one term (quarter or semester)</td>
<td>X</td>
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<tr>
<td>Travel</td>
<td>- restricted to local travel between sites and/or $500 toward the Annual UC DDC Symposium.</td>
<td>X</td>
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*proposals requesting large salary support are discouraged and will be carefully reviewed*

**REVIEW CRITERIA**

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<tr>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Review Questions</th>
<th>Location Within the Proposal</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unmet Need</td>
<td>• Why is this a significant problem? • What is the associated prevention, mortality or costs? • Have the users of this technology been identified?</td>
<td>• Significance • Innovation and Impact • TPP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Innovation and Impact</td>
<td>• Is the proposed solution linked to an unmet need? • How is this proposed solution innovative? • If successful, will the proposed solution be transformative?</td>
<td>• Innovation and Impact</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Competition</td>
<td>• Are competitive technologies addressed?</td>
<td>• TPP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Work Plan and Specific Aims</td>
<td>• Is the plan well described? • Is the plan feasible and consistent with the budget? • Does the proposal build on prior work or data? • Will the work advance the technology to a significant value point (e.g., licensing, investment, target validation, prototype generation)?</td>
<td>• Work Plan • Potential Risks and Mitigations • Budget • TPP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investigators</td>
<td>• Do investigators have the necessary strengths and expertise to accomplish the work plan and aims?</td>
<td>• Biosketches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intellectual Property</td>
<td>• Has invention disclosure occurred? • Has a patent application been filed? • Has a patent been approved? • Is there a previous licensing event and how does it affect the IP strategy?</td>
<td>• Commercial Assessment</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**SUBMISSION DATES AND TIMES**

RFA release: June 19, 2017  
Letter of Intent to Site Lead:  5 p.m. PST, July 31, 2017  
Application due:  5 p.m. PST, August 31, 2017  
Earliest start date: Oct 1, 2017

**Additional Information:** Successful applicant co-PIs must provide their field of specialization, and their IBC, IRB, and/or IACUC protocol numbers, if applicable, before funds are released. Recipients must credit the UC Multi-campus Research Program, MRP-17-454909, in publications that result from this funding. A progress report must be submitted 6 months after the grant ends.

**QUESTIONS**
**About application requirements and process:**
**UC Davis**  
Michael A. Rogawski  
Site Leader  
E-mail: rogawski@ucdavis.edu

**UC Irvine**  
Melanie Cocco  
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