

Dear Colleague,

The Northwestern University Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute (NUCATS) is dedicated to the growth and support of clinical and translational research across the Northwestern enterprise. To this end, the Center for Translational Innovation at NUCATS is pleased to announce a pilot grant competition **aimed specifically at Contributed Services Faculty** who are on staff at NMH. This initiative is supported by the NMH grant to the Feinberg School of Medicine for Academic Promotion and Advancement of Contributed Services Faculty.

We realize that CSF don't spend much –if any- time doing research, but that doesn't mean to say that you don't have ideas about how to improve the health and care of your patients. NUCATS is offering you the chance to receive funds to test your ideas, and will also find you collaborators if you need for example an engineer or an informatician to reduce your idea to practice. Not just these experts though, we can connect you with potential collaborators from across the whole Northwestern enterprise.

We also realize that you may be unfamiliar with for example, budgeting a grant, or of the details of regulatory requirements for research with humans or animals. Don't let that put you off! NUCATS is here to help you navigate these issues. The common theme of this competition is that **all proposals should address significant unmet needs that have direct bearing on clinical problems**. Grants up to \$100,000 will be awarded for novel, high-risk ideas that ideally foster new interdisciplinary collaborations. With rare exceptions (drug discovery/development being one) we're looking for *new* projects that have received little or no other funding.

Examples of projects might include (but are not limited to):

- A new diagnostic or an improvement to current diagnostics
- A new medical device or improvement to a current medical device
- New software programs
- Other areas you identify through your clinical practice where current solutions don't do a good job of meeting the clinical need

If you'd like to explore this opportunity, please contact David Johnson, Associate Director of the Research Discovery Program at the NUCATS Institute and Associate Dean for Research Operations at FSM (davej@northwestern.edu; 312-503-7934). We'll do all the heavy lifting, just contact us and talk about your idea(s).

To read more about NUCATS go to <http://www.nucats.northwestern.edu/>

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