University of Miami CFAR:
Funding Opportunity For New Scientific Working Group (SWG)

Description:
The University of Miami Miller School of Medicine Center for AIDS Research (CFAR) is now accepting applications for new Scientific Working groups in HIV/AIDS research. A SWG is defined as a group of investigators (HIV or non-HIV) who share a common interest in a specific area of scientific focus that is critical to addressing the HIV epidemic, but is neglected or underdeveloped at the CFAR institution. The goal of a SWG is to promote multi-disciplinary collaborations that result in successful applications for new HIV/AIDS research awards. The SWGs should fall within the NIH HIV/AIDS priority areas (NOT-OD-15-137).

Past Scientific Areas of Research:
- HIV Prevention and Health Equity
- AIDS Malignancies
- HIV and Women
- Vaccines and Immunology
- HIV Cures/Reservoirs
- Co-Morbidities/Co-Infections
- NeuroAIDS

Any of these areas can be expanded or a new area can be proposed for the SWG

Deadlines/Award Timeline:
- Letter of Intent (LOI) due April 23rd, 2018 by 5pm (Note: Although not required, the LOI allows us to assess the responsiveness of the RFA and to help identify potential reviewers)
- SWG Applications due May 1st, 2018 by 5pm
- Funding decisions will be announced by May 2018

Requirements:
A combination of senior, new to HIV/AIDS and early career investigators as the leaders of the SWG are encouraged. The named Director of the SWG however should be someone who is established and is expected to encourage new collaborations and lead the SWG in identifying potential high impact studies and submitting new proposals for peer-reviewed funding. The success of a SWG ultimately will be measured by expansion of NIH-supported funding within the SWG and the publication of peer reviewed articles. CFAR Cores can help promote collaborations in the SWGs by providing new resources and services that may support research activities of the SWG members. The SWG should exhibit a high degree of interaction, be encouraged to be multi-disciplinary, and should have stated goals.

Points To Consider:
1. The scientific area proposed by the SWG should be of high priority and significant at the CFAR institution with the aim to improve scientific knowledge, technical capability, and/or clinical practice.
2. The SWGs are encouraged to develop novel approaches to bring in expertise from outside the field of HIV/AIDS research including investigators who traditionally do not collaborate with the SWG.
3. The structure and organization of the SWG should be diverse enough and adequate to identify high impact, emerging scientific areas.

4. The SWG should have a plan for engaging early career investigators as well as investigators new to the HIV/AIDS field

**Funding**

Each award is limited to $60,000 for direct costs only, for a one-year project period (estimated June 2018 to May 2019). And will be considered for continuation based on progress and availability of funds

**Of Interest to Applicants**

PIs UM CFAR funded research base in HIV/AIDS as of September 2017:

- Gilboa, Eli
- Martins, Mauricio De Aguiar
- Safren, Steven A
- Stevenson, Mario
- Roy, Sabita
- Desrosiers, Ronald C
- Toborek, Michal
- Mesri, Enrique A
- Jones, Deborah Lynne
- Watkins, David I
- Pahwa, Savita
- Kumar, Mahendra
- Weiss, Stephen M.
- Govind, Varan
- Fischl, Margaret A
- Rojas, Patria
- Santisteban, Daniel A.
- Cahn, Pedro Enrique
- Coso, Omar Adrian
- Rabinovich, Gabriel
- Szapocznik, Jose

**How to Apply:**

**Letter of Intent (LOI) due April 23rd, 2018 by 5pm**

Interested applicants are encouraged to send a letter of intent which should contain:

A. Name of Scientific Working Group
B. Name of Director and names of additional leadership roles
C. 200-word abstract, give a brief overview the SWG.
D. Specific Area of Focus
E. Request for CFAR to assign or not to assign for review

Please send PDF to Patricia Wahl: pwahl@med.miami.edu

**Full Applications due May 1st, 2018 by 5pm**