

## **VIRGINIA BIOINFORMATICS INSTITUTE (VBI)/FRALIN LIFE SCIENCE INSTITUTE CORE RESOURCES/EQUIPMENT EXPLORATORY GRANT ANNOUNCEMENT**

**RELEASE DATE:** August 31, 2009

**RFA Number:** VBI/Fralin-CR/EQ-02

**PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATIONS:** Virginia Bioinformatics Institute and Fralin Life Science Institute

**ELIGIBLE PI'S:** Any VT Faculty member or Principal Investigator

**APPLICATION RECEIPT DATES:** September 16, 2009 - 5:00 p.m.

**AWARD DATE:** October 1, 2009

**AWARD PERIOD:** All work associated with the awards must be completed by May 31, 2009. There is no capacity to carry over funds, no time extensions, or redirection of funds to uses other than what has been approved. Funding will be withdrawn if not used by May 31, 2009.

### **Purpose:**

This solicitation encourages the submission of exploratory proposals for collaborative research in the Life Sciences and related areas, in effort to promote the use of Virginia Tech facilities, services and other specialized equipment. The Directors of VBI and Fralin Life Science Institute invite requests for funding from faculty for the use of facilities, equipment, and/or services, or for funding collaborative research involving analysis of data generated by these facilities and services.

### **Research Objectives:**

The principal objective of this program is to facilitate and enhance the conduct of research in the Life Sciences or related area that requires the use of facilities, equipment, services, or collaborations that are not currently available to principal investigators.

### **Funds Available:**

This second year initiative is set to fund approximately 10 projects with total program funding not to exceed \$200,000 total. Proposals will be evaluated on scientific justification, probability of extramural funding, and availability of funds. A technical review of a proposal or proposals may be required as part of the determination for funding.

### **Services Available:**

A complete list of services may be found on the controller's list page:

[http://www.co.vt.edu/Financial\\_Reporting/cost\\_accounting/svc\\_ctr\\_rates/SvcCtrRates.htm](http://www.co.vt.edu/Financial_Reporting/cost_accounting/svc_ctr_rates/SvcCtrRates.htm)

Faculty also may propose the use of other facilities, equipment or services available on campus, as appropriate to the project.

### **Eligible Investigators:**

Any faculty member or principal investigator at VT may submit an application. Faculty rank, department, affiliation of other participants should be included in the project proposal. Requests to support projects that involve collaborations with Carilion clinicians are encouraged.

### **Application Instructions:**

Applications are limited to two pages, including budget, budget justification and references, single-spaced in 11 pt. font or greater. The information should identify the goals for the research proposed, sufficient details of the project to allow reviewers to evaluate merit and should include any collaborations involved in the proposed research. A summary or outline of the experimental design is important, if applicable. A description of the extramural proposal that will follow from the research must also be identified, including agencies and dates of submission. Applications should indicate whether this is a new proposal or continuation of a previously funded (from any source) project. If it is a continuation, applicant must explain

why these resources are needed. Also include contact name and phone number for Department where award would be made.

Applicants must provide documentation or quote from the responsible individual or core director that supports the cost for the requested service(s) and validates the facility, equipment, or service availability for the period of work. This documentation is considered an attachment, and does not count against the two page limit.

**Review:**

The proposals will be reviewed by the Directors of VBI and Fralin Life Science Institute (or their designees) and evaluated according to the following Review Criteria:

- (i) The likelihood that substantial grant funding can be obtained as a result of the proposed research/
- (ii) The intellectual merit and novelty of the research.
- (iii) The likelihood that publications in peer reviewed journals will result from the proposed research.

**Reporting:**

Acknowledgement and confirmation that funds had been used as requested is required, along with a brief report of the outcome of the project. Submission of the final report of a round 1 award is required to be eligible for a round 2 award.

**Please submit proposals electronically and/or questions to:**

Jim Walke,  
Grants & Contracts Coordinator  
231-3014  
[jwalke@vbi.vt.edu](mailto:jwalke@vbi.vt.edu)