

Research Notices – February 1, 2010

Congratulations to our most recent recipients of new grants and awards!

Jason Berman, Pediatrics – “Zebrafish as an in vivo model of vertebrate mast cell development and systemic mastocytosis” (Sa’ar Daas, co-investigator)

Rob Brownstone, Surgery – “Control of movement: regulation of spinal-muscular circuits”

Balwantray Chauhan, Ophthalmology & Visual Sciences – “Identifying progression in open-angle glaucoma”

Anne Duffy, Psychiatry – “The early course of bipolar disorder: From genetic risk to illness onset” (Simon Sherry, Martin Alda, Trevor Young, Julie Horracks, Paul Grof, Tomas Hajek co-investigators)

Tim Lee, Microbiology & Immunology and Greg Hirsch, Surgery – “Induction of allograft vasculopathy by CD8+ T cells under conditions of immunosuppression”

Paul Linsdell, Physiology & Biophysics – “Functional architecture of the CFTR chloride channel”

Kenneth Rockwood, Medicine – “Epidemiology of cognitive dynamics in older adults” (John Fisk, James Nazroo, Melissa Andrew, Arnold Mitnikski co-investigators)

John Rohde, Microbiology & Immunology – “Secreted effectors from shigella flexneri that target the ubiquitin proteasome system”

John Sapp, Medicine, George Wells and Anthony Tang – “Ventricular tachycardia ablation vs enhanced drug therapy in structural heart disease: The VANIHS trial” (Ratika Parkash, Douglas Coyle, William Stevenson co-investigators)

Chris Sinal, Pharmacology – “Differential actions of the novel adipokine chemerin signaling through multiple receptors”

Research Notices – Feb 2, 2010

1. Government of Canada Post-Doctoral Fellowships
2. International Academic Mobility (IAM) Initiative
3. Canadian Liver Foundation Research Grant Program
4. InnovaCorp Early Stage Commercialization Fund – Medical Technologies
5. Congratulations!
6. Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation Atlantic – Acquiring signatures
7. Upcoming Deadlines (Feb, Mar, Apr) - attached

1. Government of Canada Post-Doctoral Fellowships

A competition has recently been announced for the Government of Canada Post-Doctoral Research Fellowships (PDRFs). The PDRFs provide opportunities for foreign researchers to study at Canadian universities for a one-year period. I would therefore be grateful if you would please forward this notice to any faculty member who may find it to be of interest.

The PDRFs are based on reciprocal agreements between Canada and foreign governments, and are designed to provide research opportunities to promising, recent, non-Canadian doctoral graduates.

Awards are tenable at recognized public Canadian universities and affiliated research institutes. PDRFs are offered in the humanities, social sciences, natural sciences and engineering.

Fellowships are not offered to professional artists, nor to those wishing to do clinical research and training involving patient care.

The total value of the fellowship is CAN \$32,000 and it is not taxable in Canada. It is valid for 12 months and is not renewable.

Applicants must:

1. Be citizens of one of the following countries: Brazil, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, South Korea, Norway, Russia, or Switzerland.

Applicants who have obtained Canadian citizenship or applied for permanent residency in Canada are not eligible for an award.

2. Have completed a Ph.D. degree within the last 4 years or have completed the Ph.D. degree requirements before the beginning of the award.

3. Be accepted into a post-doctoral position at a recognized public Canadian university or affiliated research institute of their choice.

Full information about the PDRFs, and application procedures, are available via the following website:

<http://www.scholarships.gc.ca/PDRFNonCdn-BRPDEtr-Eng.aspx>

Note that the deadline for applications varies, depending on the nationality of the applicant. Any faculty member who is interested in bringing a foreign researcher to Dalhousie under this scheme is invited to contact me as soon as possible, for more information and support in preparing applications.

For more information, you may also wish to contact Jennifer Morawiecki, International Research Facilitator, International Research & Development, Dalhousie Research Services at jennifer.morawiecki@dal.ca or 494-1734.

2. International Academic Mobility (IAM) Initiative 2010 Call for Proposals

We are pleased to announce that Human Resources and Skills Development Canada (HRSDC) has once again issued Calls for Proposals for new projects under:

·The Program for North American Mobility in Higher Education (NAMHE), and; ·The Canada-European Union Program for Co-operation in Higher Education, Training and Youth (Canada-EU).

Both these programs provide opportunities to establish student mobility programs with higher education institutions in the US and Mexico and the EU member states. Details of each Call are provided below.

Program for North American Mobility in Higher Education (NAMHE)

This program is undertaken co-operatively between the Government of Canada and the governments of the United States and Mexico. The purpose of the program is to promote a student-centred North American dimension to education and training in a wide range of academic and professional disciplines that complement existing forms of bilateral and trilateral exchange among the three countries.

The program will support collaborative efforts in the form of consortia partnerships consisting of at least two academic institutions from each of the three countries. Up to ten projects will be selected for funding in this competition, and it is expected that successful projects will commence in autumn 2010. Funding will be provided for a period of up to four years per project, with a total of up to \$160,000 being available to support Canadian partner involvement in the project.

Consortia projects should focus on trilateral co-operation and exchange with respect to student mobility and curriculum development in higher education and training, and must be student-centred rather than research-oriented. Activities should aim not only to send students abroad, but also integrate a new perspective into what and how one learns. All disciplinary fields, as well as cross-disciplinary and multi-disciplinary studies, both at graduate and undergraduate levels, are eligible for consideration. Note that for the current competition, HRSDC is particularly interested in supporting projects designed to increase professional mobility in fields of relevance to the evolving North American trade relationship, the environment and sustainable development, public health and human resources development.

Canada-European Union Program for Co-operation in Higher Education, Training and Youth (Canada-EU)

The general objectives of the program are to promote mutual understanding between the peoples of Canada and the European Union, including broader knowledge of their languages, cultures and institutions and to improve the quality of human resources in Canada and the European Union. Note that for this year's Call, two types of actions will be eligible for funding:

- i. Transatlantic Exchange Partnerships (TEP): support is provided to enable Canada-EU consortia to carry out joint study and training programs and to implement student and faculty mobility.
- ii. Transatlantic Degree Partnerships (TDP): support is provided to implement dual/double or joint degree programs. Support includes funding for students as well as members of academic and administrative staff.

These activities must involve at least two Canadian institutions from different provinces/territories, and two European institutions from different EU member states. There should be equal flows of students between Canada and the EU, and mobility must be student-centred rather than oriented towards research collaboration among partners.

It is anticipated that approximately eight projects in total will be co-financed, 3 TDP projects and 5 TEP projects. Of the 5 TEP projects, at least two will require the participation of a college, vocational school or trade institute. The maximum amount of funding on the Canadian side will be \$450,000 CAD for a 4-year TDP project and \$200,000 CAD for a 3-year TEP project.

The application deadlines for both of the above programs are 24 March 2010. More information, current guidelines, and application forms are available online at:

http://www.hrsdc.gc.ca/eng/learning/exchanges/iam_program/announcements.shtml

If you are interested in learning more about the above programs, and are considering making an application, please contact International Research & Development (ird@dal.ca) as soon as possible, for advice and support in preparing proposals. IR&D will, as in previous years, administer the submission of applications to HRSDC on behalf of Dalhousie units, and will also facilitate the necessary institutional signatures required as part of the application.

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3. Canadian Liver Foundation Research Grant Program

Two operating grants are available; (i) one operating grant may be awarded to a research in Canada whose research project is related to liver cancer; and (ii) one operating grant may be awarded to a researcher in the province of Alberta whose research project is related to pediatric liver disease.

Four graduate studentships are available: (i) three graduate studentships may be awarded to students in Canada whose research projects are related to liver cancer; (ii) one graduate studentship may be awarded to a student for hepatobiliary research in the province of Ontario only.

Please refer to the CLF website (<http://www.liver.ca>) for application forms and guidelines. Deadline for receipt of applications is March 31, 2010

4. Innovacorp Early Stage Commercialization Fund

Innovacorp is accepting submissions for the next round of the Early Stage Commercialization Fund (ESCF). The purpose of the fund is to help commercialize research. Funds can be used to validate market potential, develop go-to-market strategies, perform strategic planning, assist with intellectual property protection strategies, finish proof of concept development, build prototypes and leverage other funds. Up to \$50,000 is available per project. The submission deadline is Friday, February 12, 2010. Competition details and the application form for the Early Stage Commercialization Fund are available on the Innovacorp website at www.innovacorp.ca.

Note: In this round, we have additional funding for medical technologies. See below.

Early Stage Commercialization Fund – Medical Technologies

In this round of the Early Stage Commercialization Fund, Innovacorp, in collaboration with ACOA, BioNova and NRC-IRAP, is offering additional funding specifically for the commercialization support of medical technologies. Medical technologies include medical devices, imaging and diagnostics, but do not include other health-related work such as drugs or vaccines.

Eligibility:

Nova Scotia university and community college faculty members engaged in medical technology activities are eligible to apply. Note that staff within university affiliated hospitals (eg. the Capital District Health Authority and the IWK Health Centre) are eligible to apply.

5. Congratulations!

Congratulations to our most recent recipients of new grants and awards!

Gail Eskes, Psychiatry and Brain Repair Centre - "*Developing Innovative Brain Repair Services and Technologies*" ACOA, Atlantic Innovation Fund, Round 7 (Ray Klein, David Westwood and Ivar Mendez, co-investigators)

6. Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation Atlantic – Acquiring signatures

A fillable word document of the CBCF Atlantic's Host signature page is on the Medical Research Development Office website under "Quick Links" (<http://research.medicine.dal.ca>). The institutional information has already been populated for you.

CBCF will be giving LIMITED access to the web-based forms so we will be able to review your applications before submission. Please submit the signed signature page along with the completed Investigator's checklist ideally by February 17 to allow sufficient time for review and to obtain signatures. If you cannot meet this deadline, please contact me (Carla.ross@dal.ca)