**UC Pancreatic Cancer Consortium SPORE Project Awards**

The UC Pancreatic Cancer Consortium is anticipating the submission of a Specialized Program of Research Excellence (SPORE) to the NCI in early 2020. The P50 grant is directed at funding state-of-the art investigator-initiated translational research to improve the prevention, early detection, diagnosis, and treatment of organ-specific cancers. In anticipation of our submission focused on pancreatic cancer, we are soliciting SPORE Research Project Proposals. Please note that the Project proposals are distinctly different from either R01 or U01 research mechanism in that the proposed SPORE project must be translational. In every SPORE project, the development of new cancer-relevant interventions should include both a laboratory component and a human application (see options below) that must be performed at some time during the 5-year term of the grant. Note that experiments using cell lines, xenografts or tumor grafts do not fulfill the requirement for a human application of translational research.

At least one of the following types of human endpoints should be proposed in each SPORE research project:

* Early phase clinical trials of new investigational drugs and biologics, experimental procedures, medical devices, or combinations thereof, or
* Early phase clinical trials of new combinations or new uses of the FDA-approved agents and devices, or
* Discovery and development of biomarkers, only when measurements are made in human specimens, or directly in human subjects, or
* IND-directed toxicology studies\* conducted following a pre-IND meeting with the FDA in which the plan proposed by the investigators is acceptable to the FDA, or
* Population, behavioral, or psychosocial studies, when these studies address mechanistic aspects of the biology of the disease, or
* Clinical studies that lead to laboratory studies, which address new clinical hypotheses.

The SPORE program fosters highly interactive research typically involving multiple PIs (representing basic science, translational and clinical research). SPORE applications are supported by Core resources, typically including Biostatistics, Biorepository, Animal Models, etc. Furthermore, successful applications demonstrate interactions with other Cancer Center programs, SPORE programs, cooperative trials networks, and often biotechnology development.

The goal of this solicitation is to begin to identify potential SPORE projects across the 5 UC sites that would be included in the 2020 UC Pancreas Consortium SPORE application. Selection of the final 3-4 projects will be based on significance and impact of the proposal, experience and expertise of the investigative team, strength and novelty of approach, interaction of the research team, and diversity of the applications to cover the priorities of the NCI (specifically noting early detection, prevention or population science). Proposals must involve investigators from a **minimum** of two UC Cancer Centers. At least one PI must be a faculty member at one of the five UC Comprehensive Cancer Centers.

**APPLICATION GUIDELINES:** To avoid an onerous effort of project submission, SPORE project proposal will include limited submission for review. All applications (pdf) must be submitted electronically via email to pcenter@ucsf.edu

Applications should include:

1) Research proposal should consist of **no more** than 4 pages (exclusive of references though references may be omitted), and be structured as follows: Specific Aims (typically 1 page including Rationale), Significance, Impact, Approach (2 pages including an overview of the clinical trial if proposed).

2) NIH biosketch of all investigators

3) Documentation of other support if applicable

4) Brief (less than 1 page) or Core resources that would be anticipated

**DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION:** The deadline is 5:00 PM PST, Monday April 1, 2019.The anticipated SPORE submission date is early 2020 with the earliest starting date of July 1, 2020.

**INQUIRIES:**Please direct inquiries to Alexis Cox.

Email:  pcenter@ucsf.edu. Phone: (415) 476-3270.