

The Patrick & Catherine Weldon Donaghue Medical Research Foundation Supported

Nutrition Research Competition

at the University of Connecticut Health Center

Program Goals: The purpose of The Donaghue Nutrition Research Competition (DNRC) is to solicit, evaluate, and fund new and meritorious clinical and translational research on the impact of nutrition for preventing/reducing human disease and on achieving and maintaining optimal human health and well-being. The effect of this overall purpose will be to:

- 1) fund promising pilot studies, which will provide data for the submission of larger grants to other external funding agencies;
- 2) fund the testing of preliminary, highly innovative and possibly risky hypotheses; and
- 3) support faculty who are new to the field of nutrition research

Priorities: The first priority of the competition is to fund nutrition proposals of high scholarly merit that have the greatest potential to provide practical benefit to human life. The projects are welcome to utilize the well-established infrastructure of the General Clinical Research Center of the UCHC.

Timeline:

Table 1: Nutrition Research Competition, Summary of Timeline	
Activity	Time
Program announcement	September-October, 2009
Application deadline	Friday, December 4, 2009 at 12:00 noon
Review meeting (with concurrent GCRC budget review)	By January 15, 2010
Decisions to applicants	February 1, 2010
Earliest date funding begins	April 1, 2010
All projects completed	July 31, 2011

Format: The format required for applications will be the NIH grant application (PHS 398), with the exception that there will be a 10-page length limitation for sections A – D (the scientific narrative sections).

Review Process: The applications will be reviewed using the well-established NIH review model. There will be an Advisory Board composed of 4 senior-level persons representing the Farmington campus, the Storrs campus, an GCRC representative, and a member of the Donaghue Foundation. This Board will receive the scientific rankings from the Scientific Review Committee and make final decisions regarding which applications will receive support. The Scientific Review committee will consist of appropriate faculty and other qualified scientists, selected by the Advisory Board who will provide the initial review and the scientific ranking of each application. Appropriate internal and external *ad hoc* reviewers will be chosen, depending upon the specific applications received. We anticipate requesting one or two external reviews for most applications.

Eligibility: Applicants must hold a faculty position at the University of Connecticut at the rank of Assistant professor or above.

Duration and Size Limits of Awards: This is the final year of funding for this grant. Thus, we will award grants that must be completed by April 1, 2011 for \$10,000 - \$100,000 (total direct costs). Note: There are no indirect costs allowed for the individual studies through the Donaghue grant. Although, in rare instances, we may offer one investigator up to \$100,000, it is expected that most grants will be for smaller awards.

Annual Reports: Annual Reports of progress, publications, presentations, new applications submitted for external funding, etc., will be due no later than March 1st of the year following the start of funding. The format for the annual progress reports will follow the format for similar reports for RO1 grants of NIH. Awardees will present their results at the Advisory Board meeting annually.

Contact and Proposal Submission: Please submit as a PDF file and send electronically to Ms. Lisa Godin (Godin@nso.uhc.edu). In addition, please send one hardcopy to: Lisa Godin, General Clinical Research Center, University of Connecticut Health Center, 263 Farmington Avenue, Farmington, CT 06030. Both the electronic and mailed hardcopy must be received by the application deadline, which is Friday, December 4, 2009 at 12:00 noon. Please call (860) 679-4145 if you have any questions.