

and commonly accepted professional codes or norms.” Research integrity is a vital component both of the reliability of the research record and of the trust that underlies public support for research. Therefore the responsible expenditure of public funds for research must include attention to research integrity. The purpose of the proposed grant program is to foster empirical research on the institutions, processes, and values that affect integrity in research. The sponsoring agencies are particularly interested in studies that will inform policy making at DHHS, NIH, and research institutions, with the goal of fostering appropriate attention to integrity in publicly funded research programs.

*Term/Amount:* The ORI intends to commit approximately \$500,000 in FY 2002 grants in response to this RFA. In addition to new applications, amended applications for projects previously submitted to NIH will be accepted. An applicant may request a project period of up to two years and a budget for direct costs of up to \$100,000 per year. Because the nature and scope of the research proposed may vary, it is anticipated that the size of each award will also vary. Although the financial plans of the ORI provide support for this program, awards pursuant to this RFA are contingent upon the availability of funds and the receipt of a sufficient number of meritorious applications.

*Contact:* The letter of intent is to be sent to: Mary Ellen Cheung, Ph.D. NINDS/NIH Neuroscience Center, Room 2209, MSC 9525 6001 Executive Boulevard Bethesda, MD 20892-9525 Rockville, MD 20852 (for courier service) FAX: (301) 480-1080 Email: mm108w@nih.gov The research grant application form PHS 398 (rev. 4/98) is to be used in applying for these grants. These forms are available at most institutional offices of sponsored research and from the Division of Extramural Outreach and Information Resources, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, MSC 7910, Bethesda, MD 20892-7910, telephone 301/435-0714, email: GrantsInfo@nih.gov.

*Deadline:* Letter of Intent Receipt Date: October 15, 2001. Application Receipt Date: November 19, 2001.

#### **BIOLOGY OF ADULT STEM CELLS IN AGING: AG-01-006**

*Purpose:* This Request for Applications (RFA) is to solicit applications that address the basic biology of adult stem cells in aging. Research to elucidate the changes that take place in stem cells and their environment with normal age and age-related disease will be crucial to understanding how and why tissues, organs and organisms senesce and to eventual development of stem cell-based therapies for the aged. Projects are encouraged that significantly advance research to identify and characterize adult stem cells as a function of aging; characterize the tissue environment and the interaction of adult stem cells with that environment during aging; separate, monitor and control adult stem cells from and in aging tissue; and develop or use disease models to understand the biology of adult stem cells in disease states common to aged individuals. Appli-

cations are solicited for research projects that focus on various aging tissues or physiological systems, including cardiovascular, musculoskeletal, immune, urogenital, endocrine and nervous systems.

*Term/Amount:* The NIA has set aside \$2 Million for the first year of support for grants awarded in response to this RFA. Maximum direct costs requested may not exceed \$250,000 for the first year. It is anticipated that 5 to 7 R01 grants will be supported. Awards are contingent upon availability of funds and the receipt of a sufficient number of applications of outstanding scientific and technical merit. Applications that are not funded may be revised and resubmitted under regular grant procedures for the NIH. Direct costs will be awarded in modules of \$25,000, less any overlap or other necessary administrative adjustments. Facilities and Administrative costs will be awarded at the negotiated rate.

*Contact:* The letter of intent is to be sent to Jill L. Carington, Ph.D. Chief, Systems Branch Biology of Aging Program National Institute on Aging 7201 Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 2C231 MSC 9205 Bethesda, MD 20892-9205 Telephone: (301) 496-6402 FAX: (301) 402-0010 Email: jc189n@nih.gov The research grant application form PHS 398 (rev. 4/98) is to be used in applying for these grants, with the modifications noted below. These forms are available at most institutional offices of sponsored research; from the Division of Extramural Outreach and Information Resources, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, MSC 7910, Bethesda, MD 20892-7910, telephone 301/435-0714, email: grantsinfo@nih.gov; and on the internet at: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/phs398/phs398.html>.

*Deadline:* Letter of Intent Receipt Date: August 14, 2001. Application Receipt Date: September 11, 2001.

#### **MULTIDISCIPLINARY CLINICAL RESEARCH CENTERS FOR ARTHRITIS AND MUSCULOSKELETAL AND SKIN DISEASES: AR-01-006**

*Purpose:* The National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases (NIAMS) invites applications for a new program of Multidisciplinary Clinical Research Centers (MCRCs) in arthritis and/or musculoskeletal disorders and/or skin diseases. The goals of this new program are to prevent disease and to assess and improve outcomes for patients with arthritis and other rheumatic diseases; musculoskeletal disorders including orthopaedic disorders, bone diseases and muscle diseases; and skin diseases. For a comprehensive listing of the disease areas covered in the NIAMS extramural programs, please see <http://www.nih.gov/niams/grants/gen2.html> Each MCRC will be organized around a methodology core and will be expected to include a minimum of three highly meritorious projects encompassing clinical research drawing from different disciplines. The methodology core will be the foundation of the center, providing key support for development and implementation of clinical projects. Each