FUNDING OPPORTUNITY ANNOUNCEMENT – CENTER FOR RESEARCH IN HUMAN MOVEMENT VARIABILITY

Pilot Projects related to Harnessing Movement Variability to Treat and Prevent Motor Related Disorders
Proposal Due Date: March 15, 2020

To: University of Nebraska-Omaha Faculty
From: UNO-COBRE PI Dr. Nick Stergiou
Date: Start Date: August 1, 2020

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY PURPOSE
The NIH Center of Biomedical Research Excellence (COBRE) awards provide funds for research infrastructure and pilot grants for investigators. The COBRE award to the University of Nebraska Omaha targets the investigation of the mechanisms of human movement variability in order to treat and prevent motor related disorders. Such investigation is multidisciplinary in nature encompassing biological and behavioral sciences, mathematics, engineering, computer science, virtual reality, physics, biotechnology, and several others. The goal of the Pilot Project mechanism is to enhance the development of the research for a NIH New Investigator by providing support for research, the instrumentation necessary for cutting-edge biomedical research, supplies, and other associated expenses. The result from the development of this research infrastructure will be to provide opportunities for collaboration and to become involved in the biomedical research projects supported by the Center. The COBRE pilot research projects allow an investigator to develop more substantial independent external support from the NIH. Projects will be funded August 1, 2020 through July 31, 2021.

ELIGIBILITY
Each proposal must be submitted by a person with a UNO faculty appointment (non-tenured faculty included) that can be defined as an NIH New Investigator (http://grants.nih.gov/grants/new_investigators/#definition). Applicants must be registered in the NIH Commons as UNO institutional users. Proposals from junior investigators are highly encouraged. Previous Center for Research in Human Movement Variability Pilot Project recipients are not eligible. Applicants that have applied and been rejected are no longer eligible to apply.

BUDGET
Budgets can be proposed for up to $10,000. However, budget amount is also negotiable with the COBRE PI, Dr. Nick Stergiou, and the COBRE Financial Coordinator, Mr. Jeff Kaipust.

REVIEW AND SELECTION
Proposals will be evaluated based on likelihood of success, influence in science performed within the theme of our center, and use of funds. Projects will not begin until they have been approved by the NIH. New investigators who do not have or have not previously had NIH funding as a PI are given priority over NIH funded junior faculty and more senior faculty.

MAJOR REVIEW CRITERIA
The review criteria used are the following: Significance, Innovation, Investigator(s), Approach, Environment, and Theme. To find detailed information about the first five criteria please see https://grants.nih.gov/grants/peer/critiques/rpg.htm and consider those associated with an R21. Regarding the theme, our theme is Human Movement Variability. Therefore, the applicant should consider if the project fits the theme of the Center?

APPLICATION
The application must be completely filled out and uploaded to NuRamp under the “COBRE Pilot Project Mechanism 2020” application by 5PM CST on March 15, 2020.

The application must include:
1. Face Page
2. Project Summary (Page 2)
3. Research Strategy Section (Maximum 6 pages)
4. Biographical Sketch of Research Project PI
5. Updated other support of Research Project PI
6. Detailed Budget with justification
7. Checklist Format Page with F&A cost breakdown
8. PHS FORMS E - Human Subjects and Clinical Trials Information Form and IRB approval (if applicable)
9. IACUC approval and Vertebrate Animal Section (if applicable)

For Guidance on the following remaining forms, visit: http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/phs398/phs398.pdf
1. One Page of Specific Aims, page I-46
2. Pages of Research Strategy, pages I-46 & I.47
3. Protection of Human Subjects sections 4.1, 4.2 and 4.4
   b. Note: Submit IRB for approval the same month the proposal is submitted

NOTE
For scientific inquiries and questions regarding the development of the application please contact Dr. Nick Stergiou at nstergiou@unomaha.edu or schedule a meeting through Angela Collins at 402-554-4486 or at afcollins@unomaha.edu.

PILOT PROJECT PRIOR NIH APPROVAL (JUST-IN-TIME):
In addition to the items above, if your project is selected for submission to NIH, then you also need to provide following items, as appropriate (These items should be submitted within two weeks of notification):
1. The IRB approval letter must approve the work proposed in the Pilot Project and the IRB protocol and your Pilot Project must be the same title.
2. Current CITI training certifications for all key personnel listed on the Project Summary Form, (form page 2).
   a. CITI certification must be the “Coursework Requirements Report” for “Groups 1 and 2” and have the expiration date listed.
3. Other Support document

We encourage you to begin developing these items immediately upon submission of your Pilot Project proposal. We cannot submit UNO’s portfolio of Pilot Project requests to NIH until all proposals are complete.

SELECTED PROPOSALS
All selected proposals are required to complete a pilot project agreement form. Each awardee is required to present at the following Annual Conference in Human Movement Variability. Each awardee is required to acknowledge the P20GM109090 COBRE award in manuscripts resulting
from pilot project funding. Each awardee is required to report any federal funding applications and awards during COBRE Phase II and COBRE Phase III.

Each awardee is required to complete the Public Health Service (PHS) Financial Conflict of Interest (FCOI) regulations Responsibility of Applicants for Promoting Objectivity in Research for which PHS Funding is Sought (42 C.F.R. Part 50, Subpart F) and Responsible Prospective Contractors (45 C.F.R. Part 94) in NuRamp at the time of submission.

FCOI compliance requires all Investigators of PHS-funded research to complete PHS Conflict of Interest training and disclose all significant financial interests to their institution. The Office of Research and Creative Activity (ORCA) will assist Investigators in this process.

To ensure that you, any other Investigators, and UNO are in compliance, please:
1. Review the PHS FCOI regulations and UNO’s FCOI compliance policy by clicking on the links above
3. Print or save your training completion certificate
4. Login to MavGrants with your NetID and Password
5. Click Main Menu
6. Click Interest and Activity Management
7. Click Add New Reporting Form (This step is not available if users are in the List view. Users who have the List view will need to click on the IAM module title. That will take them to the second screenshot below, then click Add new reporting form.)
8. Users should fill out forms for themselves to ensure the most up to date information is entered. Click Submit and begin the form.

If you have any questions concerning these FCOI regulations, the training program, or the disclosure form, please be in touch with us in ORCA at unosponpro@unomaha.edu.