ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SCIENCE PILOT GRANTS PROGRAM

The Mission of the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS), an NIH Institute, is to discover how the environment affects people in order to promote healthier lives. To fulfill this mission the NIEHS wants to recruit the best and brightest investigators to perform environmental health science research. The Southwest Environmental Health Sciences Center (SWEHSC), an NIEHS funded Center at the University of Arizona, is promoting the mission of NIEHS through the availability of Pilot Project awards up to $40,000.
(https://www.niehs.nih.gov/about/strategicplan/index.cfm). Pilot projects are designed to provide support for obtaining preliminary data that can be used in developing major proposals for submission to extramural funding agencies. We, the investigators and administration of the SWEHSC, want you to be successful and are here to help you in the development of your Pilot Project applications.

How can we help in the development of your application?

1. First, you should touch base with Dr. Clark Lantz, who is administering the Pilot Projects Program. He can assure you that your research is related to the goals of the Center and NIEHS, make some preliminary suggestions on potential collaborators within the SWEHSC and suggest potential facility cores that might be useful in your proposed research.
2. Next, you should submit a Letter of Intent (LOI) to Susanna Herndon (brodie@pharmacy.arizona.edu by May 15, 2019. This will include your project title, potential collaborators, potential facility core usage and preliminary draft of your Specific Aims. While the LOI is not required in order to apply for Pilot Project funds, it will allow us to match you with other researchers in the Center who can assist you in preparing your application.
3. Meet with a Research Focus Group. The LOI will also allow us to schedule you to meet with an appropriate Research Focus Group. (sometime this summer). The SWEHSC has three Research Focus Groups that are designed to promote collaborations. These include: RFG1, Environmental Exposures in Underserved Southwest Populations; RFG2, Environmental Lung Diseases; and RFG3, Adaptive Response to Environmental Stress. https://swehsc.pharmacy.arizona.edu/research. You can prepare a brief (no more than 5 minute) overview presentation for the appropriate RFG. The reason for meeting with the RFG is two-fold. It will provide you with an opportunity to meet, interact with and get an overview of the research interests of investigators in

the RFG. In addition, it will give the RFG members an opportunity to provide you with suggestions and comments that will strengthen your Pilot application. After meeting with the RFG, you will have an opportunity to incorporate their comments and suggestions prior to final submission of your Pilot Application.

4. Submit your application by 5:00 pm, Monday, August 19, 2019. All State of Arizona faculty are eligible and encouraged to apply.

Junior and clinical faculty, who have not previously performed research in environmental health science but who would be interested in broadening their research to include environmentally related research, are especially invited by the Center to apply. Since a goal of the Pilot Projects is to promote collaborations, projects that provide for interaction with existing SWEHSC investigators are encouraged. Use of Research, Discovery and Innovation Facility Cores (https://research.arizona.edu/core-facilities) is encouraged, since fees associated with use of these facilities can be requested in addition to the $40,000 maximum budget. Information about the SWEHSC and its resources can be found at http://swehsc.pharmacy.arizona.edu/. Application materials and information concerning budgetary issues can be obtained from Susanna Herndon (brodie@pharmacy.arizona.edu, 626-5594) or from the SWEHSC website. Research related questions should be addressed to Dr. Clark Lantz (lantz@email.arizona.edu, 626-6716).   Funding decisions will be made by October 1, 2019.