

October 2, 2009

## Request for Pilot Proposals in Nanomedicine

The Center for Nanoscience and Nanobiotechnology (CNN) together with the Department of Medicine (DoM), the Evans Center for Interdisciplinary Biomedical Research and the Office of the Provost, the Dean of Engineering and the Dean of Arts and Sciences call for internal Boston University proposals to seed collaborative efforts in basic science and discovery in nanomedicine. With this RFP we seek to support new collaborations in innovative applications of nanotechnology to medicine. Our goal is to enable researchers to test new ideas, build interdisciplinary teams, and generate the preliminary data necessary for successful applications to external funding agencies.

### *Program description:*

*This program will target new applications of nanotechnology to basic medical sciences.* Since other support mechanisms at BU, including Coulter, CIMIT, Fraunhofer, CTSI, etc. support later stage efforts, particularly product validation and development, we will focus on more basic science. The program will proceed in two stages. The first stage will provide support for a 6 month period for new collaborations to demonstrate feasibility, institute effective cross-campus collaborations, and develop preliminary data. The second stage is for programs that require longer-term support to achieve additional preliminary results, following a successful first stage. The goal is to provide researchers sufficient time and support to complete studies, but also to require a significant step of internal review in passing from stage I to stage II.

### *Requirements:*

- Research must fit NSF/NIH definition of nano (100 nm or smaller and functional).
- New collaborations: Preference will be given to new collaborators at initial stages of discussion, without significant preliminary data. Past collaborators with a new research proposal may also be considered. These projects will be exploratory by definition, so an already funded collaboration will not be considered.
- At least one CNN faculty and one MED faculty. CRC faculty must be members of CNN; at least one MED PI must be from the Department of Medicine.
- Stage I will be 4 page proposal, 12 point, 1 inch margins, all inclusive. 2 page CVs of key personnel including both external and internal current and pending funding.

### *Award information:* <http://nanoscience.bu.edu/nanomedicine/>

- Stage I: \$20k, 6 months.
- Stage II: \$45k for an additional 6-12 months, depending on outcomes of Stage I.

We expect to fund around ten proposals in total, with the expectation that highly successful Stage I proposals will receive Stage II funding. Proposals will be reviewed by a panel consisting of CRC faculty in nanoscience and MED faculty. CNN, DoM and Evans Center for Interdisciplinary Research Director/Chairmen will co-chair the panel.

### *Important Dates:*

- 11/15/09: Stage I submission deadline.
- 11/30/09: Panel reviews, awards made.
- 1/01/10: Stage I start date.
- 4/16/10: Nanomedicine Symposium
- 5/01/10: Stage II proposals due.
- 5/22/10: Panel reviews, awards made.
- 6/01/10: Stage II start date.