CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

Community Research Innovative Scholars Program (CRISP)
Applications due November 9, 2015

The Goal of the CRISP
The goal of the CRISP is to support the development of independent UMass researchers who conduct community engaged research. Community engaged research involves collaborative research with community partners along the translational research continuum.

Commitment
Scholars must commit a minimum of 20% FTE for a one year period. Accepted scholars must also demonstrate that this effort will be covered by the Department/Division during the entirety of their time in the program.

Participation involves:
- Participation in a monthly mentoring group, typically at the Worcester campus
- Completing a pilot project as well as carrying out additional scholarly activity to support an external grant application
- Completing and submitting an external grant application

Pilot Project Funding
CRISP scholars will receive up to $20,000 funding to conduct pilot research to inform a future grant proposal.

Eligibility
All faculty from the 5 UMass campuses can apply provided they meet the following eligibility requirements:
- Academically or professionally salaried
- PhD, MD or equivalent advanced degree
- Not previously received NIH or equivalent grant funding
- Minimum ½ time benefited employee

Evaluation Criteria
A review committee of faculty from each of the 5 campuses will evaluate each applicant based on:
- The quality of the candidate’s academic achievements and potential for future productivity
- The candidate’s commitment to conducting community engaged research
- The potential of the candidate’s research area/project leading to future external funding
- Commitment of support by Department Chair or Division Chief as demonstrated by protected time, space and resources
- The strength of the letters of support

Application Components
Submit the following application components, except for letters of support, in one pdf document.
- Cover page: including: Title of project, Applicant’s name and credentials, Campus, Department, Faculty rank, Office address and telephone, Email address, List of letter of support writers (including relationship to the applicant)
- Current CV
- Research area/interests (not to exceed 3 pages): Include a description of your area of research, including: Overview and experience in your primary area of research, including preliminary studies; Community research partners (if established); Preliminary plan for a future external grant application, including Specific aims, Significance and Methods
- Mentorship needs (not to exceed 1 page): Briefly describe the type and amount of mentoring you think you will require in the CRISP program and during your transition to becoming an independent researcher
Letters of support: Include a letter of support from your Chair/Chief that includes a statement of your department or division's commitment to you, noted by protected time to participate in the CRISP, space and resources. The letter must also state that the Chair/Chief has read your proposal. An optional letter of support from your Mentor is desirable and can describe his/her commitment to you and what type of role s/he will play during your involvement in this program.

Applications will be reviewed by a committee with representation from the 5 UMass campuses.

Submit all application components to CommunityEngagement@umassmed.edu

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