College of Life Sciences Faculty Research Awards

James Bobbitt Alzheimer's Research
Up to a $20,000 award for a faculty member conducting research in the area of Alzheimer's disease.

James Bobbitt Heart Disease Research
Up to a $20,000 award for a faculty member conducting research in the area of heart disease.

James Bobbitt Kidney Disease Research
Up to a $20,000 award for a faculty member conducting research in the area of kidney disease.

Applications for James Bobbitt Alzheimer's Research Award, James Bobbitt Heart Disease Research Award, and James Bobbitt Kidney Disease Research Award

What: One or more grants from each of the three James Bobbitt endowments may be awarded to faculty from the College of Life Sciences each year. The proposed research must be related to the areas described by the award names. If unsure, contact the associate dean of research for clarification.

When: Proposals must be submitted prior to the deadline posted on the college website, usually November 15th. Awards will be announced in December and the funding will become available immediately.

Application: Interested faculty should submit a written proposal of no more than four pages that describes the specific aims, significance, background (including preliminary data), methods, anticipated outcomes, and proposed budget. Research involving live animals must have IACUC approval before the money will be awarded. Research involving human subjects must have IRB approval before the money will be awarded. See accompanying *Instructions for Preparing an Application*.

Reviews: Proposals will be reviewed by college faculty selected by the associate dean. Alternatively, the associate deans will review the proposals. See accompanying *Proposal Evaluation Sheet*.

Accountability: Recipients should submit a one-page (maximum) report outlining results from the research, including students (undergraduate as well as graduate) mentored and any publications or submitted manuscripts resulting from the project. Due date for the final report is one year from the award date.

<u>Instructions for Preparing a Proposal for Faculty Awards</u>

The application should be single-spaced with 1" margins and 12-point font. It should include the sections described below. The *Specific Aims*, *Background and Significance*, and *Research Design and Methods* sections combined <u>should not exceed four pages</u>.

Abstract (< 300 words)
The Abstract should be a succinct and accurate description of the proposed work. It should include the specific aims, an abbreviated description of the research design and methods, a concise summary of the significance of the proposed work, and a description of how the proposal is relevant to the chosen endowment account.

Specific Aims
List the aim(s) of the specific research proposed (e.g., to test a stated hypothesis, solve a specific research problem, answer a specific question, develop a new technology, etc.).

Background and Significance
Using appropriate references, briefly outline the background leading to the present application. Critically evaluate existing knowledge and identify gaps that may be filled by the proposed research. Inclusion of preliminary data is encouraged. Explain the importance of the problem to progress in the field that the proposed project addresses. Describe how the proposed project will improve scientific knowledge or technical ability in the chosen area.

Research Design and Methods
Briefly describe the research design, procedures, and analyses to be used in accomplishing the specific aims of the project. Include how the data will be collected, analyzed, and interpreted. Describe any new or novel approaches, techniques, and methodologies and state their advantages. Explain any potential difficulties or limitations in the proposed procedures and alternative approaches that are being considered.

Budget
Itemize proposed expenditures into general categories such as student wages, supplies, equipment, travel, etc. While proposals can requested up to $20,000, Please budget appropriately for the proposed research since smaller requests and awards are common.

Vertebrate Animals or Human Subjects
State weather the research will use vertebrate animals or human subjects. If so, protocols must be approved by IACUC (vertebrate animals) or IRB (human subjects) before money will be dispersed. The applicant must provide evidence of the appropriate approval.

Literature Cited
List all publications cited in the sections above. Each citation must include the title, names of all authors, journal or book (include editors and publisher), volume number, page numbers, and year of publication.

Curriculum Vita
NIH/NSF format preferred.

Proposal Evaluation Form for Bobbitt Awards

Proposal title:

Applicant:

Reviewer:

1) Significance – Does the project address an important problem or a critical barrier to progress in the field? If the aims of the project are achieved, how will scientific knowledge, technical capability, and/or clinical practice be improved? How will successful completion of the aims change the concepts, methods, technologies, treatments, services, or preventative interventions that drive this field?

   Rating:_____ (5 = Exceptional, 4 = Very Good, 3 = Good, 2 = Fair, 1 = Marginal, 0 = Poor

2) Investigator – Is the PI well suited to the project? If the PI is in the early stages of an independent career, is there appropriate experience and training? If established, is the demonstration of an ongoing record of accomplishments that have advanced the field?

   Rating:_____ (5 = Exceptional, 4 = Very Good, 3 = Good, 2 = Fair, 1 = Marginal, 0 = Poor

3) Approach - Are the overall strategy, methodology, and analyses well-reasoned and appropriate to accomplish the specific aims of the project? Are potential problems, alternative strategies, and benchmarks for success presented? Can the project be completed with the funds requested?

   Rating:_____ (5 = Exceptional, 4 = Very Good, 3 = Good, 2 = Fair, 1 = Marginal, 0 = Poor

4) Environment - Will the scientific environment in which the work will be done contribute to the probability of success? Are the institutional support, equipment and other physical resources available to the investigators adequate for the project proposed?

   Rating:_____ (5 = Exceptional, 4 = Very Good, 3 = Good, 2 = Fair, 1 = Marginal, 0 = Poor

5) Relevance – Does the proposed project address questions that fit within the general area described by the particular Endowment fund selected for application?

   Rating:_____ (5 = Exceptional, 4 = Very Good, 3 = Good, 2 = Fair, 1 = Marginal, 0 = Poor