For the purpose of informing interested faculty, please be aware of the following opportunity:

PAR-09-219: Exploratory Innovations in Biomedical Computational Science and Technology (R21)

The National Institutes of Health is soliciting proposals to support exploratory biomedical informatics and computational biology research—applications should be innovative, with high risk/high impact in new areas that are lacking preliminary data or development. Applications for R21 awards should describe projects distinct from those supported through the traditional R01 mechanism. In the latter case, investigators should consult the parallel announcement PAR-09-218 “Innovations in Biomedical Computing Science and Technology (R01)”. For example, long-term projects or projects designed to increase knowledge in a well-established area will not be considered for R21 awards.

Investigators may target one or multiple areas of biomedical computing that will enable progress in biomedical research. Examples of data types that could be considered include but are not limited to genomic sequences, gene expression, proteomics, pathway data, and scientific and biomedical images, qualitative descriptors for health and social science, and remote sensing and geospatial images. Specific research areas solicited in informatics or computational science include but are not limited to:

- Tools for data acquisition, archiving, querying, retrieval, visualization, integration and management.
- Platform-independent translational tools for data exchange and for promoting interoperability.
- Analytical and statistical tools for interpretation of large data sets.
- New models or simulations of complex biological processes at single and multiple levels or across multiple scales (and the development of computational and/or mathematical tools for the analysis of these processes).

Given the expanding needs in biomedical research for advances in a variety of areas of information science and technology, the approaches and technologies proposed under this announcement should ultimately be generalizable, scalable, extensible, and interoperable. The projects should take into account the needs of the biomedical
research community whose members will be the end users of the products of the research. The projects should also address plans for the dissemination of useful products of the research, including approaches, technologies and tools, to the relevant research and user communities. The informatics and computational research proposed should be future-oriented, fill an area of need or projected need, and seek to exceed the current state of the art.

For more information about this opportunity please see the full solicitation (PAR-09-219).

Because the nature and scope of the proposed research will vary from application to application, it is anticipated that the size and duration of each award will also vary. Cost sharing is not required. Complete award information is found in the full solicitation.

Deadline for Proposal to OR-Sponsored Programs: 10/9/2009
(Please see the solicitation for complete application & submission information.)

Please contact Sponsored Programs (4-2402) with questions regarding proposal submission requirements.

Deadline for Proposal Submission to Agency: 10/16/2009

If you have any questions regarding this announcement please contact:

Dr. James Lloyd
Professor and Coordinator of Electronic Research Administration
UT Knoxville Office of Research
Phone: (865) 974-0390
E-mail: jlloyd@utk.edu