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

RFA-GM-10-009: Exceptional, Unconventional Research Enabling Knowledge Acceleration (EUREKA) (R01)

The National Institutes of Health is soliciting proposals to encourage exceptionally innovative research from investigators who want to test novel, unconventional hypotheses or pursue major methodological or technical challenges. The potential impact of the proposed research must be substantial, in terms of both the size of the scientific community affected and the magnitude of its impact on that community. The investigator should anticipate starting and completing the project during the term of the award, since this FOA is not for support of ongoing research or for pilot projects, and awards are not renewable. If it is the hypothesis that is novel, the investigator should be able to prove or disprove that hypothesis by the end of the funding period. If it is the methodology or technology that is exceptionally innovative, the investigator should be able to develop it by the end of the funding period or demonstrate conclusively that the approach is not feasible.

The rationale for EUREKA is that for science to move forward in leaps rather than in incremental steps, investigators must have opportunities to test unconventional, potentially paradigm-shifting hypotheses, and to attempt to use novel, innovative approaches to solve difficult technical and conceptual problems that severely impede progress in a field. However, applications proposing such research are difficult to evaluate in comparison to more typical investigator-initiated R01 research grant applications, in which the emphasis tends to be more on the feasibility of the proposed research than on its novelty.

Before submitting an application, it is extremely important to verify that the proposed research is of interest to at least one of the NIH Institutes that is participating in the EUREKA FOA, since applications that are not germane to the mission of one or more of the participating Institutes will be withdrawn without review. The participating Institutes for this FOA are the National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS), the National Cancer Institute (NCI), the National Institute on Aging
(NIA), the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA), the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research (NIDCR), the National institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH), the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS), and the National Library of Medicine (NLM). Each of these NIH Institutes has its own scientific purview and different program goals for the EUREKA initiative.

For more information about this opportunity, including participating NIH Institutes’ goals, please see the full solicitation (RFA-GM-10-009).

**Estimated funding and approximate number of awards:**
- **NIGMS** ($6 million, 18-22 awards)
- **NCI** ($3 million, 9-11 awards)
- **NIA** ($1 million, 2-3 awards)
- **NIAAA** ($600,000, 2 awards)
- **NIDCR** ($800,000, 2-3 awards)
- **NIDA** ($1 million, 3-4 awards)
- **NIMH** ($3 million, 8-12 awards)
- **NINDS** ($2 million, 6 awards)
- **NLM** ($985,000, 3 awards)

Cost sharing is not required. Complete award information is found in the full solicitation.

**Deadline for Proposal to OR-Sponsored Programs:** 11/17/2009
(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:** 11/24/2009

If you have any questions regarding this announcement please contact:

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