Dear Program Members:

The Herbert Irving Comprehensive Cancer Center provides Developmental funds to be used to pursue innovative, high-risk ideas or stimulate high priority research areas (e.g., translational research, research on underserved populations, development of new technologies or methodologies, early phase clinical trials).

The Inter/Intra-Programmatic Pilot Program (IPPP) is a funding mechanism supported by HICCC developmental funds whose goal is to stimulate inter-programmatic translational research initiatives within the Cancer Center by funding pilot projects that involve PIs from at least two different HICCC Programs, with funding priority for projects spanning two research areas (e.g., basic/translation, basic/population science). Applications for projects within a program that are strongly interdisciplinary and/or clearly cut across programmatic themes are welcome. For further information on the four HICCC Research Programs and member alignment, please view the HICCC Research Programs pages here.

IPPP is expected to fund two cancer research pilot projects for one year. This initiative aims to support the initial stages of translational and/or interdisciplinary research that has the potential to develop into a long-term collaborative project that attracts national funding (e.g., NCI-supported R01 or P01 grants). Thus, successful applicants will be expected to apply for national funding as a result of HICCC pilot support.

Pilot projects may include interventional early phase clinical studies that have no or partial other source(s) of funding. Such studies should be highly innovative, early phase clinical studies that are developed based on science from the HICCC’s Research Programs. Pilot projects that include clinical trials may be subject to NIH requirements for approval of human subjects, planned enrollment and inclusion reporting.

Funding should be directed to a specific experimental milestone that will make the project eligible for follow up funding through Government, Foundation grants and/ or industry partnerships. We encourage that the majority of funds be utilized for project specific study experiments, although a smaller portion of the funds may be used towards salary support for research personnel (e.g., post-doctorate researchers, graduate students or technician). Funding may not be used towards PI salary, equipment or travel.

The following guidelines apply:

1. **Eligible applicants:** Each proposal will represent a collaborative project involving HICCC full members from at least two HICCC Programs. Projects involving full members of a single HICCC Program may be considered eligible if the collaborative elements are exceptionally interdisciplinary; in such cases, the investigators must inquire about eligibility at least two weeks prior to submission.

2. **Subjects:** novel, unfunded projects within the full spectrum of cancer research, including early detection and prevention; pathogenesis; therapeutic approaches to cancer; survivorship; and
reducing cancer-related health disparities.

3. **Award**: $60,000 to support personnel and supplies. Funds may not be used to support faculty salaries, capital equipment or travel. Indirect costs are not permitted.

4. **Application format**: i) cover page with all investigators and HICCC programs; ii) research proposal that includes background, specific aims and experimental plan within a **four-page** limit; iii) references that include titles and full author lists, not included in the four-page limit; iv) itemized budget with justification that denotes the distribution of funds between the different co-investigators; v) NIH- formatted biosketch including research support for key personnel; vi) a brief plan (less than half page) for submission of a national grant for continued support of the project (e.g., funding agency, grant type, date of submission, project title).

5. **Application deadline**: Friday, November 15, 2019 11:59 pm

**Review process**: An internal committee organized by the HICCC Senior Leadership Team will review and select the proposals. Projects will be evaluated for scientific merit, feasibility, cancer focus, collaborative interactions, and potential for subsequent national funding. Translational and/or interdisciplinary efforts are strongly encouraged.

Applications should be submitted through InfoReady: [https://columbia.infoready4.com/#HICCCfundingopportunities](https://columbia.infoready4.com/#HICCCfundingopportunities).

**Previous Recipients:**
2017 Gary Schwartz, Brent Stockwell, Julia Glade Bender

2017 Swarnali Acharyya, Gerard Karsenty

2016 Liang Liu, Larissa Geskin, Angela Christiano, David Bickers

2016 Richard Baer, Alberto Ciccia, Matthew Szabolcs

2016 Laura Pasqualucci, Swarnali Acharyya

2015 Adolfo Ferrando, Maria Luisa Sulis, Stavroula Kousteni