Center of Biomedical Research Excellence.COBRE [P20] Proposal.

RFA: http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-11-286.html

Deadline: Letter of intent. 21 Jan., 2014, Full proposal 21 Feb, 2014.

Duration: 5 years

Budget: $1.5 million per year. And $300k one time for renovation

PI W. Kelley Thomas

Theme: Genomics and Bioinformatics:

Basic Goals and Relevance to NIH mission:

Genomics and Bioinformatics have become key methodologies in the investigation, diagnosis and translation of biomedical research. At the same time the pace of training of new scientists across critical fields has not kept up with demand. Furthermore, technological change has been so rapid as to present a particular challenge maintaining and advancing competitive research programs among existing scientists.

UNH is not recognized as a traditional center for biomedical research however, in the last two years the university has committed significant resources to establishing an inter-disciplinary team of scientists in the area of Genomics and Bioinformatics. Four new, tenure-track hires in genomics are complete and two new hires in bioinformatics are planned for next year.

Advancing Biomedical Research Excellence at UNH will focus on leveraging new investments by UNH in Genomics and Bioinformatics, by direct support of new hires and expanding shared core resources. In addition, we will specifically target support for established programs at UNH with broader impact on the development of NIH funded independent research groups (UP to NIH, and broader support infrastructure).

The request for COBRE support will be focus on supporting three specific aims.

1. The newly hired faculty will be supported specifically to foster their research programs in biomedically relevant areas allowing for the development of critical expertise and preliminary data to support future long term R01 funding.
2. Expanded administrative core and the existing Genomics and Bioinformatics and core will be expanded to increase the capacity and potential for effective integration of state wide resources.
3. UNH operates a highly effective program focused on the increasing competitiveness of research active faculty at all levels toward attaining sustainable NIH funding. The CORBE is an opportunity to leverage this infrastructure and allow expanded participation and more substantial investment.
4. Other Ideas. Renovations ?
5. From RFA: Collaboration with other non-doctoral degree-granting and research-performing institutes or institutions is encouraged. Seems like there is something to be had there.. Keene, Plymouth, etc..

The key next step is establishing the Mentor/Mentee relationships and getting new faculty locked into the proposal timeline.

Rick Cote, David P.

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Notes/Questions

1. Does this award invalidate the “New Investigator” status. I don’t see mention on the P20 on the NI policy page. http://grants.nih.gov/grants/new\_investigators/