

To: School of Medicine Faculty

From: Raphael Valdivia, Ph.D., Vice Dean for Basic Science

Re: Fifth annual Holland-Trice Scholars award for high risk/high impact discovery research in Basic Brain Science and Brain Diseases

Request for Proposals

The Duke University School of Medicine is pleased to announce a sixth call for proposals for high risk/high impact research in the area of brain and disease. This RFP is focused on discovery in the **basic neurosciences**. Priority will be given to School of Medicine investigators researching basic biology that could be related to brain diseases, including (but not limited to) Alzheimer's and other neurodegenerative disorders, stroke, and behavioral disorders.

We plan to make **three \$50,000 (1 year) and one \$200,000 (2 years) awards** focused on truly innovative basic science pilot research projects in brain and disease, based on the following criteria:

- Originality
- Scientific rationale
- Potential for scientific impact
- Clear articulation of the way in which the proposed research differs from other funded projects of the Principal Investigator
- Clarity of plans for obtaining subsequent extramural funding to extend or complete the project

Applications may be submitted for either award type; those applying for the larger award should state how they will adjust their research goals if they receive the smaller award. Grants funded during the last cycle of this award mechanism are not eligible for renewal, though **previously funded investigators may apply for projects with distinct research objectives.**

Please include the following in your proposal:

- Title page and contact information
- Abstract of 150 words or less describing the project
- Project summary in 3 pages or less (11 point Arial font, inclusive of figures but not including citations), addressing the selection criteria listed above.
- Biographical sketches for participating faculty, including current and pending sources of support. Please use the new "**NIH Biosketch Form**" as outlined in <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-15-032.html>

Deadline: Proposals must be received by 5 PM EST, August 20th, 2017

Selection Process for New Awards – Proposals will be peer-reviewed, and awards announced by September 20, 2017 at the earliest. Applicants for the larger award may be interviewed prior to the meeting of the Review Panel to assure that the proposed research is a new direction relative to the laboratory's current efforts. Selection of peer reviewers and final funding decisions will be made by the Dean of the School of Medicine. Applicants will be

notified of funding decisions but will not otherwise receive feedback from the evaluation process. Awardees will be required to submit a year-end progress report and will be expected to present their accomplishments at an informal meeting towards the end of their year of funding. The funds should not be used to fund faculty salaries.

Applications should be submitted as pdf files to: anne.meska@duke.edu