Claude D. Pepper Older Americans Independence Centers (P30)
Limited Submission Internal Call for Proposals
Internal Due Date: Monday July 10, 2017

Please distribute to all relevant faculty.

NIH Letter of Intent Due Date: September 19, 2017
NIH Full Proposal Deadline: October 19, 2017
ORD Internal Proposal Due: Monday July 10, 2017

To Apply:
Due by 5:00 pm, Monday July 10, 2017:
Submit the following in ONE .doc or .pdf file to Denise Lindley, Office of Research Development, Limited_Submissions@unc.edu

1. Biosketch or CV of PI (Please limit to five pages)
2. Two page project summary
3. List of potential collaborators (internal and external to UNC)
4. Names of three internal (to UNC) faculty who could speak knowledgeable about the project, in the event of an internal review. Please do not include the names of faculty named on the project, chairs, deans, directors, direct reports or others who have a conflict of interest.

Research Objectives

The Claude D. Pepper Older American Independence Centers (OAIC) program was established in honor of the late Representative to establish centers of excellence in research and research education to increase scientific knowledge leading to better ways to maintain or restore independence in older persons.

The OAIC awards are designed to develop or strengthen awardee institutions’ programs that focus and sustain progress in a key area of aging research. Applicants should identify an area of focus in which progress could contribute to greater independence for substantial populations of older persons and offer opportunities for education in aging research. This area of focus should be a common theme around which all proposed OAIC activities are organized. NIA’s expectation is that an OAIC, in a given area of focus, will:

- Provide intellectual leadership and innovation;
- Facilitate and develop novel multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary research strategies;
- Stimulate incorporation of emerging technologies, methods and scientific advances into research designs as appropriate;
- Provide research education for future leaders in geriatric research;
- Stimulate translation between basic and clinical research (e.g., research to develop or test interventions or diagnostic tests based on new findings from basic aging research or other basic research, or studies to improve understanding of mechanisms contributing to clinical or functional findings);
- Promote translation of clinical research findings into practice in relevant healthcare settings (see also "Health Services Research as an Area of Focus" below);
• Collaborate substantially with other OAICs on multi-center projects such as integrating data systems, supporting multi-center observational studies, and providing infrastructure to support multi-site clinical trials, including pragmatic trials;
• Interface where possible with other NIA-funded programs and Centers (e.g., Resource Centers for Minority Aging Research (RCMARs), Centers on the Demography and Economics of Aging, Edward R. Roybal Centers for Translation Research in the Behavioral and Social Sciences of Aging, Alzheimer’s Disease Centers (ADCs), Nathan Shock Centers);
• Leverage institutional resources, including other NIH-supported programs and Centers, to achieve the OAIC’s aims with efficiency; and
• Serve as a source of advice and collaboration to other investigators locally and on a large-scale regarding technology, methodology, analysis, or other expertise.

Area of Focus
To achieve the objectives listed above, each OAIC should promote a sustained research program in an area of focus through which the Center will accomplish the innovation, leadership, collaborative, and research education functions described above. It is crucial to the design of an OAIC to identify an important research area to be addressed, to specify the goals to be achieved within the five-year OAIC award period, to provide a plan to reach these goals, and to outline a method to evaluate progress toward these goals during the course of the OAIC award. The selection of core activities (see below) should follow from these considerations.

An OAIC may select an area of research focus from a broad range of topics, including but not limited to:

• Aging-related issues concerning a specific condition contributing to loss of independence in older persons (e.g., role of aging changes in the etiology of the condition; special issues in the diagnosis, treatment, or prevention of the condition in old age; complications, disability, or symptoms from the condition found principally in older persons).
• Causes, assessment, prevention, and treatment (including rehabilitation) of a specific type of disability in older persons.
• Causes, prevention, and treatment of geriatric syndromes (e.g., sarcopenia, falls, incontinence) that are related to multiple pathologies and/or disabilities.
• Specific aging-related physiologic changes, other risk factors, and/or interventions (e.g., physical activity) that affect risk for multiple conditions or disabilities in old age.
• Interactions of multiple diseases, disabilities, and interventions (e.g., medications) in older persons, and their relationship to risk of morbidity, progression of disability, and efficacy of prevention or treatment strategies.
• Factors contributing to amelioration or delay of multiple deleterious aging changes by modulating risk factors or fundamental aging mechanisms.

To view the full solicitation please click on the link below.

Number of applications per institution: 1

Funds Available and Anticipated Number of Awards: NIA intends to commit approximately $4.5 million in FY2018 to fund 4 awards. The number of awards is contingent upon NIH appropriations and the submission of a sufficient number of meritorious applications.
Anticipated Funding Amount: Application budgets are limited to $825,000 in annual direct costs for a 5 year period

Please do not hesitate to contact Denise Lindley with questions at Limited_Submissions@unc.edu or 962-7503