REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS: MELANOMA, PANCREATIC CANCER, GliOBlastOMA, LUNG CANCER, OVARIAN CANCER, METASTATIC PROSTATE CANCER, METASTATIC BREAST CANCER, ADULT LEUKEMIA RESEARCH, AND MYELODYSPLASTIC SYNDROMES

Award Amount: $375,000 (total costs) per team per year for up to 2 years ($750,000 total). Multiple awards will be granted; the final number is dependent on ongoing fundraising efforts.

Letter of Intent: Email notification is required by August 16 if you plan on submitting a proposal

Proposal Submission Date: September 5, 2013
Finalist(s) present to Bridge Review Team: November 14, 2013
Project Start Date: ~ March 1, 2014
Submission Information: LOIs and applications should be submitted electronically to: ki-bridge@mit.edu

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Overview and Goal of the Bridge Project
The Koch Institute (KI)-Dana-Farber/Harvard Cancer Center (DF/HCC) Bridge Project is designed to help bring the expertise of these two Centers to bear on complex translational problems in cancer research. A particular emphasis is placed on fostering joint approaches by engineers and cancer scientists, both basic and clinical/translational. This is a call for applications for collaborative research projects that focus on critical problems in the following cancers: Melanoma, Pancreatic, Glioblastoma, Lung, Ovarian, Metastatic Prostate, Metastatic Breast, Adult Leukemia, and Myelodysplastic Syndromes. Additional information on the Bridge Project including faculty presentations on unmet clinical needs and technology can be found at:

http://ki.mit.edu/approach/partnerships/bridge

Eligibility
All applications must be from a team composed of at least one member of the Koch Institute at MIT (or MIT faculty member) and one member of DF/HCC. Teams with more than two PIs are welcomed. Each PI must meaningfully participate in the project. Preference will be given to teams that are employing unique and highly innovative approaches, including the development of new technologies. All applicants must be faculty members (≥assistant professor) of their host institution. Faculty members who will already have Bridge Funding are not eligible to apply, unless the amount of total funding is less than $187,500/year.

Letter of Intent
Please notify us by email by August 16 if you plan to submit a proposal; include the names of the PIs and very briefly describe the project. Write to: ki-bridge@mit.edu
Proposal Submission Information (due September 5, 2013)
The research proposal may not exceed five pages including figures and tables. Cover page, biosketches, budgets, and one page of literature citations do not count to the page limit.

Format
- 12 point Cambria or 11 point Arial font and margins of 0.5 inches or greater
- Required Components
  - Cover Page. Include the title of the project, PIs names, and project abstract
  - NIH Biosketches for each PI. Include Part A (Personal Statement)
  - Budgets and Budget Justifications. Using PHS 398 form pages submit one per institution per year with additional overall budget for the project
  - Research Plan: Include Background and Significance, Specific Aims, and the Research Plan
  - Literature Citations

The research proposal should clearly articulate the following:
- What is the primary unmet medical need you are addressing?
- What approaches do you intend to use and why are they novel?
- What are the anticipated experimental challenges?
- What are the short- and longer-term goals of the research?
- What can be reasonably accomplished within the funding period?
- What clinically translatable applications might emerge from this work now or in the future?

Resources and Budget
Funding for the project should be allocated in (close to) equal amounts to the Koch Institute/MIT and to the DF/HCC institution(s). Budget requests and justifications must be submitted using PHS 398 form pages for each institution as well as an overall project budget for the full project period. Funds may be used for research expenses, which may include salary and benefits for PIs and other research staff, supplies, and equipment. MIT and DF/HCC will apply F&A rates according to their established policies.

As soon as a team is formed please contact the following Bridge Project grant administrators for additional information about applicable F&A rates and for help with budget preparation:
- **DF/HCC administration for DF/HCC institutions: Deborah Goff**, Deputy Associate Director, Program and Operations Support, DF/HCC, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Deborah.goff@dfci.harvard.edu
- **Koch Institute/MIT administration for KI/MIT: Mary Ellen Acone**, Koch’s Institute’s Senior Financial Officer, meacone@mit.edu

Funding may be requested for up to a two-year period, but the renewal at the end of year one is subject to performance review. Budgets are not to exceed $375,000 total costs (shared between the KI and the DF/HCC PI’s) per project per year.
We request that all applicants email their final version of the budget to Deborah (DF/HCC) or Mary Ellen (KI/MIT) for their final review before submission of the full grant application at least 24 hours before the submission deadline.

Progress Reports
Grantees must submit two progress reports/year, one after 6 months of funding, and one at the end of the first year of funding. Progress will be measured against stated benchmarks and timelines. Second year funding will be dependent on a satisfactory review of the Progress Report. An 18-month report and a final progress report are also expected.

Other requirements
• The team must be able to present (as a group) on Nov 14 if selected for 2nd round review. Do not apply if all PIs are not able to be present on this day.
• Members of the winning teams will/may be asked to attend/present at several other Bridge Project-related occasions (donor events) as well as participate in the next review cycle (2014).
• Bridge Funding must be acknowledged in publications, presentations, and invention disclosures.

Contact Information
Please direct questions to:
Ki-bridge@mit.edu
or
Anne Deconinck (anned@mit.edu)
Tyler Jacks (tjacks@mit.edu)
David Livingston (David_Livingston@dfci.harvard.edu)
Dennis Lynch (dennis_lynch@dfci.harvard.edu)