

Contact: Diana Gonzalez

**PROPOSED NEW INSTITUTE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA**  
**INSTITUTE FOR CLINICAL AND TRANSLATIONAL SCIENCE**

**Action Requested:** Consider recommending to the Board approval of the request by the University of Iowa to establish a new Institute for Clinical and Translational Science that will report to the Provost.

**Executive Summary:** The proposed Institute will serve as the University's academic structure for all clinical and translational research and training and will establish a multidisciplinary matrix to facilitate and support all clinical and translational science across the University's colleges. The proposed Institute will train clinical research scholars for innovative careers in patient-focused research. The training programs will provide a diverse and comprehensive curriculum across a spectrum of clinical research fields and opportunities for supervision by mentors from the Colleges of Dentistry, Nursing, Pharmacy, Public Health, Engineering, Liberal Arts and Sciences, and the Carver College of Medicine. This proposal was reviewed by the Board Office and the Council of Provosts and is recommended for approval.

**Background:**

- ◇ **Goals of proposed Institute.** The following are some of the goals of the proposed Institute:
  - ☑ Remove barriers to clinical and translational research and stimulate new interactions and multidisciplinary research and training programs.
  - ☑ Provide short-term training to scientists interested in conducting clinical and translational research, including community researchers, study coordinators, and early-career researchers.
  - ☑ Aid in bridging basic and clinical research and bringing discoveries to Iowa communities and others.
  - ☑ Integrate existing programs for clinical research training and increase collegial interactions among trainees.
  - ☑ Integrate functions that support clinical and translational research, including regulatory support and drug development, essential research core support, pilot grants, and information technology.
  - ☑ Forge research partnerships with industry.
  
- ◇ **Research activity.** The University of Iowa is classified as a "very high research activity" research university by the Carnegie Foundation. As a result of significant funding from the National Institutes of Health, the Carver College of Medicine ranks 13<sup>th</sup> among U.S. public medical schools and 6<sup>th</sup> on a per-faculty basis. The Iowa City Veterans Administration Medical Center has the second largest biomedical research program in the VA system and a rapidly growing program in epidemiology and health services research.

- ◇ Duplication. The proposed Institute is unique; no other similar centers/institutes exist at other colleges or universities in Iowa.
- ◇ Relationship of proposed Institute to other centers/institutes at the University. The University has a number of centers/institutes that support different functions of clinical and translational science. Many, such as the General Clinical Research Center, the Center for Research in the Implementation of Innovative Strategies in Practice, and the Preventive Interventions Center, will be incorporated into the proposed Institute. Others, like the Clinical Trials Statistical and Data Management Center and the Holden Comprehensive Cancer Center, will support the proposed Institute.
- ◇ Facilities. The University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics will renovate approximately 32,000 square feet of space for the proposed Institute research facility and for office space for Institute faculty and trainees. Board approval will be requested as appropriate.
- ◇ Personnel. Ultimately, the proposed Institute will include at least 13 senior and 13 junior members. The proposed Institute staff will include an Information Technology director, administrator, training program coordinator, two nurse study coordinators, administrative assistant, and two secretaries. The staff will be increased as studies are funded and additional personnel are needed. Initial personnel will be funded by reallocations from the Carver College of Medicine.
- ◇ Equipment. Initially, information technology equipment will be required which will be purchased by University reallocated funds.
- ◇ Proposed funding grant. Currently, the University receives significant funds from the National Institutes of Health for a variety of projects, including the General Clinical Research Center, clinical research curriculum, and the mentored clinical research scholar program. The University intends to submit a proposal for a clinical and translational science award (CTSA) to the NIH in January 2007. This award will absorb several of the existing awards and provide approximately \$6 million additional funds annually for the proposed Institute.
- ◇ Costs. In addition to the CTSA, funds for the on-going operation of the proposed Institute will be reallocated by the University through the Office of the Vice President for Research and several colleges. The projected cost of the proposed Institute in year 7 and beyond is projected to be \$6 million. In years 1-6, the costs, including renovations, equipment, and other capital expenditures, are projected to average \$6.4 million annually.
- ◇ Link to Strategic Plans. The proposed Institute addresses the University's Strategic Plan goals – "cultivate excellent graduate and professional programs and advance the research and scholarly enterprise; promote excellence in education by increasing the diversity of the faculty, staff, and students; strengthen the University's intellectual and community vitality; and broaden the University's service mission to include partnerships with public constituencies." It also supports the Board of Regents' strategic plan to "discover new knowledge through research, scholarship, and creative activities (Priority 2.0) and provide needed service and promote economic growth (Priority 3.0)."

Details about the proposed Institute are available in the Board Office.