Request for Applications to Establish New Porcine Models of Human Diseases

We are excited by the enthusiasm that Dr. Randy Prather and Dr. Kevin Wells from University of Missouri (UM) received by the Penn community during their recent trip to Philadelphia. Drs. Prather and Wells established the National Swine Resource and Research Center (NSRRC) in 2003 and developed the infrastructure to ensure that biomedical investigators have access to critically needed swine models of human health and disease. The NSRRC creates genetically modified swine, and information and training related to use of swine models in biomedical research at the National Swine Resource and Research Center (NSRRC) [http://nsrrc.missouri.edu](http://nsrrc.missouri.edu). We are looking forward to beginning this collaboration with the NSRRC.

The next step is to take inventory of all possible projects of interest to Penn faculty. The general structure of the NSRRC collaboration is for the Orphan Disease Center to fund the generation of the transgenic porcine line at UM, after which the requesting faculty member would assume all costs of expanding the colony and conducting experiments. The limited space available to house pigs on our campus may become a bottleneck. We are working with Penn leadership to consider ways to address this issue; it should not deter you from submitting an RFA.

**Timeline:**
If interested in participating in this initiative, please submit the attached application which is due **Wednesday, April 5, 2017**. Applications will be reviewed by external reviewers as well as ODC leadership. Applicants will be notified of the outcome of review by **Friday, May 5, 2017**.

**Application Requirements:**
It is important to list all co-PIs with their institution and department. In your application, you will be asked to summarize the disease to be modeled, a description of the utility of the transgenic line, and sources of funding for colony expansion and experimentation.

For your reference, the approximate cost of maintaining a pig line is $1,020 per month. The cost of expansion of the pig colony is on average $255 per pig, per month.

**Eligibility:**
All faculty of Penn, CHOP and the Wistar Institute are invited to submit proposals.

**To Apply:**
Please use the attached template to complete your application. Submit your completed document as a PDF to [this form](#) by **5pm EST on Wednesday, April 5, 2017**.
Application to Establish New Porcine Models of Human Diseases

Name ________________________________________________________________

Department _________________________________________________________

Email: _____________________________________________________________

Phone: ________________________________

Collaborators (Name and Department) _______________________________________

Summary (no greater than 300 words).

Please describe the disease to be modeled, description of the pig transgenic line, how it will be used and sources of funding for line expansion and maintenance.

Introduction

Describe the disease that is being modeled. Include justification for funding from the Orphan Disease Center to create the transgenic pig line. Indicate how it will be used in research and how it will be useful to the community.
Experimental Design

*Please include the following:*

1) Type of genetic modifications and background porcine strain needed.
2) Strategy for phenotyping the animals.
3) What experiments will be conducted on the line once it is phenotyped (e.g., disease pathogenesis, evaluation of novel therapeutics etc). Included in this section should be an estimation of the number of animals needed.

Funding Sources

*Indicate how the project will be funded once the line is created.*