The UAB Comprehensive Cancer Center plans to fund up to three ACS IRG awards in 2006. The primary purpose of these grants is to provide seed funding to junior faculty members that facilitates successful competition for extramural funding programs at the national level. Awards will be limited to a maximum of $30,000 per investigator and for a 12-month period beginning January 1, 2006.

Deadline for proposals is Friday, November 4, 2005

Application guidelines and instructions may be obtained from Becky Warnix (becky.wamix@ccc.uab.edu) phone 4-4579, or Dr. Denise R. Shaw (dshaw@uab.edu) phone 4-2387.

Application guidelines and instructions are also posted on the UAB Comprehensive Cancer Center website at http://www3.ccc.uab.edu.
QUALIFICATIONS:

- Applicants are limited by ACS guidelines to junior faculty members (Assistant Professors, Research Assistant Professors and Instructors) who have held *any faculty position for eight years or less* and who have *not received funding from a major national funding agency* (such as NIH, ACS, VA, US Army/DOD).

- ACS mandates that applicants be either *United States citizens or lawfully admitted to the US for permanent residence*. (For example, foreign visiting scholars may not be eligible.) Appropriate documentation will be required prior to activation of ACS IRG awards.

- The purpose is to provide "seed" money for the initiation of promising new projects by junior faculty, to obtain preliminary results that facilitate successful competition for national research grants. IRGs are intended to support *independent, self-directed investigators* early in their careers, for whom the university has provided research facilities and space customary for an independent junior faculty investigator.

- Awards are limited to a maximum of $30,000 per investigator for a 12-month period beginning January 1, 2006, and ending December 31, 2006. ACS IRGs are restricted to one-year, one-time awards.

- Applicants who previously submitted ACS IRG applications to the UAB program and were not funded may submit revised applications, as long as applicants meet the above qualifications. **Revised applications must include a one page introduction** in the Research Plan section outlining revisions and responses to the previous review committee's critiques.

- Past recipients of the UAB Comprehensive Cancer Center’s Junior Faculty Development Grants (JFDG) may apply for ACS IRGs if they meet the qualifications listed above. However, due to the limited funds for internal grant programs, such previously-funded projects may receive lower priorities during the Cancer Center's internal review process.

- Applicants who previously submitted JFDG proposals that were not funded are also eligible to apply for the ACS IRG program, if they meet other qualifications. Such applicants are strongly advised to refer to the previous JFDG critiques during preparation of their ACS IRG proposals, because the ACS IRG review panel will usually be familiar with the previous JFDG application.
FORMAT OF APPLICATIONS:

- Proposals should represent NIH R01-type research grant applications, with the important additions and exceptions noted below. Use standard NIH 398 forms or similarly formatted pages http://grants2.nih.gov/grants/funding/phs398/phs398.html.

- Arrange application as follows, using NIH instructions except where noted otherwise. **Items # 1 - 10 must be included.**

1. **Cover Letter** from the principal investigator -- Describe your career goals and how an ACS-IRG award would promote your research career development.

2. **Face Page** (NIH form page 1) -- Under official signing for applicant organization, enter the chairman of the principal investigator’s primary department, with the chairman’s signature on line 15.

3. **Description and key personnel** (NIH form page 2) -- Generally, only the principal investigator should be listed here. List other faculty involved in the project under Consultants and Collaborators (item # 10 H).

4. **Table of Contents** (NIH form page 3)

5. **Detailed Budget** (NIH Substitute Detailed Budget for Initial Budget Period Direct Costs) -- Modular budget is not acceptable. See below for allowable expenses. Do not list any personnel with percent effort unless salary is budgeted.

6. **Budget Justification** (use NIH continuation page)

7. **Biographical Sketch** (NIH biographical sketch format page) -- for principal investigator, 2 page limit. List other support in the next section.

8. **Other Support** (NIH Other Support Format Page) -- for principal investigator, list all past, current and pending extramural and intramural support. Include awards with other principal investigators, if the applicant is listed in the key personnel. Give award dates and total direct costs, and briefly describe each project.

9. **Resources** (NIH resources format page)

10. **Research Plan:** (sections A. – D. not to exceed 15 pages) (Introduction to revised application - one page)

   A. Specific Aims

   B. Background and Significance

   C. Preliminary Studies

   D. Research Design and Methods

   E. Human Subjects

   F. Vertebrate Animals

   G. Literature Cited

   H. Consultants and Collaborators -- If other faculty are participating in the project, describe their roles, and include Biographical Sketch plus Other Support listing current and pending grant support.

11. **Appendix** (optional) -- Do not include manuscripts or abstracts that have been submitted and are pending acceptance for publication.
• **Conflict of Interest Disclosure Statements** must be submitted for all key personnel listed on pages 2-3 of the application. Signed original conflict forms should be attached to the original copy of the application (no copies needed). The form and instructions can be obtained from the website [http://main.uab.edu/show.asp?durki=30258](http://main.uab.edu/show.asp?durki=30258) or from the Office of the Conflict of Interest Review Board, AB 1120, phone 5-9691.

• UAB extramural checklist is not needed, and ACS IRG grants do not require full UAB OGCA signatures (“walk-through”). However, **items listed below must be addressed, and the face page should be signed by the applicant’s departmental chairman.**

• **Human Use Approval** must be filed with the UAB Institutional Review Board (IRB) for all proposals involving studies of human samples or data, at the time of ACS IRG submission. *There is no “just in time” provision for ACS IRG applications. Applications using human samples or data that do not have IRB approval pending will not be reviewed.* Funding cannot be activated until certification of UAB IRB human use approval has been received. Complete guidelines and forms for human use are available at the website [http://main.uab.edu/show.asp?durki=30246](http://main.uab.edu/show.asp?durki=30246), or from the IRB Director’s office, AB 470, phone 4-3789.

• **Animal Use Approval** must be filed with the UAB Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) if animals are planned for study, at the time of ACS IRG submission. *There is no “just in time” provision for ACS IRG applications. Applications using animals that do not have IACUC approval pending will not be reviewed.* Funding cannot be activated until certification of UAB animal use approval has been received. Guidelines and forms are available at the website [http://www.uab.edu/iacuc/](http://www.uab.edu/iacuc/) or from the IACUC Director’s office, VH B-10, phone 4-7692.

• **Occupational Health and Safety** (OHS) registration must be performed at the time of ACS IRG submission. See [http://www.healthsafe.uab.edu/pages/home/writingagrant.html](http://www.healthsafe.uab.edu/pages/home/writingagrant.html) for guidelines and forms.

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**BUDGET:** Indirect costs are not applicable to ACS IRG awards.

The following types of expenditures are **allowable:***

- Research supplies and animal maintenance
- Technical assistance
- Domestic travel when necessary to carry out the proposed research
- Publication costs, including reprints
- Cost of computer time
- Special fees (pathology, photography, etc.)
- Stipends for graduate students and postdoctoral assistants if their role is to promote and sustain the project presented by the junior faculty member
- Equipment costing less than $2,000 (*excluding computers*)
- Registration fees for scientific meetings
The following types of expenditures are NOT allowed:
- Construction or building maintenance
- Dues and membership fees in scientific societies
- Foreign travel (except for scientific meetings held in Canada, see above)
- Honoraria and travel expenses for visiting lecturers
- Major alterations
- Non-medical services to patients
- Office and laboratory furniture
- Office equipment and supplies, including computers and peripherals
- Per diem charges for hospital beds
- Purchasing and binding of periodicals and books
- Recruiting and relocation expenses
- Rental of office or laboratory space
- Salary of Principal Investigator
- Secretarial/administrative personnel
- Tuition

SUBMISSION: Submit the signed original application plus 15 copies. Do not staple the original; binder clips are preferred. For applications containing color graphics or photographs that will not reproduce well on standard photocopiers, include at least two copies containing high-quality reproductions, and label these copies for routing to assigned reviewers. Otherwise, reviewers will be provided with standard black-and-white photocopies.

Complete application packages must be received no later than
4:30 pm on Friday, November 4th, 2005,
in VH L108C (phone 4-4579).

REVIEW OF APPLICATIONS AND AWARDS: Applications are scheduled for review in December 2005, by a committee of UAB Comprehensive Cancer Center faculty. Awards are projected to start January 1, 2006. Awards cannot be activated until all applicable UAB conflict of interest, human use, animal use, and OHS reviews have been completed.

CONTACT for questions about preparation and submission of applications:

Dr. Denise R. Shaw
email dshaw@uab.edu
phone 4-2387

Dr. Robert B. Diasio (Ms. Becky Warnix)
email bwarnix@uab.edu
phone 4-4579