The UC Davis Clinical and Translational Science Center (CTSC) in collaboration with the M.I.N.D. Institute and California National Primate Research Center (CNPRC) requests proposals in response to a call for pilot projects focused on new collaborative approaches to neurodevelopmental disorders. These awards are intended to support new collaborations and novel ideas for multidisciplinary research projects that focus on neurodevelopmental disorders, and across all age groups.

Funds will be available for a maximum of $30,000 in total costs for a 12-month period beginning April 1, 2009. Support may be provided for salary, supplies, and other research-related expenses; funds may not be used to purchase equipment or for travel expenses. The proposal must include at least one trainee at the predoctoral or postdoctoral/clinical fellow level. The role of the trainee in the project must be very clearly defined, and the trainee will be expected to participate in CTSC educational and training program activities.

**Purpose:** The UC Davis CTSC provides an academic home for clinical and translational research and is focused on speeding improvements in human health by reducing barriers in health-relevant research. The goal of the CTSC Pilot and Collaborative Studies Program is to enhance and augment research areas crucial to translational and clinical research by providing support for novel research projects, the development of new teams and partnerships, high risk/high impact studies, and proposals that include trainees. **For this call for applications, the CTSC is collaborating with the M.I.N.D. Institute and CNPRC to encourage cutting edge proposals focused on neurodevelopmental disorders, and that address areas such as:**

- environmental toxins
- prenatal insults
- risk factors for childhood and/or adult disease
- genetics/epigenetics
- nutritional factors
- immunology and/or inflammation
- behavior, social networks, and/or family influences

The intent is to provide funds to obtain preliminary data for new, competitive extramural grant submissions.

**Eligibility:** All full-time members of the UC Davis faculty, including faculty in the adjunct or research series, are invited to apply.

**Application Procedure:** Proposals are requested using the 5-page form that can be downloaded from the CTSC website (http://www.ucdmc.ucdavis.edu/ctsc/). The submission must include an NIH biographical sketch for each participating investigator including the trainee(s). All proposed projects that include nonhuman primates must include an investigator/NPRC Staff Scientist experienced in research with nonhuman primates, either as a consultant in the design and conduct of the study, and/or as a collaborator on the project. Deadline date for receipt is **February 24, 2009 at 5 pm.**

Submitted proposals must use the following format and adhere to the requirements of the submission form:

- Specific Aims and Hypotheses
- Background and Significance
- Plan
- Rationale for Requested Funding and Plans for Extramural Submission(s)
- Rationale for Use of Nonhuman Primates **(if included)**
- Role of Trainees(s) and Mentoring Plan
- If prior funding from the CTSC, how this application represents a new and unique research direction

**Additional Requirements:** The names of all investigators funded through the CTSC Pilot and Collaborative Studies Program will be posted on the CTSC website. In addition, all investigators must participate in the annual CTSC retreat, acknowledge the CTSC base-operating grant in any abstracts or publications resulting from supported studies, and provide regular updates on study progress. For those proposals that include
nonhuman primates, the CNPRC base-operating grant must also be acknowledged in any abstracts or publications, and an abstract must be provided for the annual CNPRC progress report.

**Review Criteria:** Proposals will be reviewed for scientific merit, response to the purpose and intent of the call for applications, justification for the use of nonhuman primates (if included), inclusion of trainee(s), novelty and new team approaches and partnerships, overall budget proposed, and likelihood of leading to extramural funding or a new clinical trial.

Application receipt deadline: February 24, 2009
Earliest funding start date: April 1, 2009

*Each P.I. may submit one proposal only.* Please send a pdf version of the application on the deadline date to: Michael Gillis at michael.gillis@ucdmc.ucdavis.edu

For questions, please contact:
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*Information on CTSC resources can be found at:* http://www.ucdmc.ucdavis.edu/ctsc/
*Information on the M.I.N.D. Institute can be found at:* http://www.ucdmc.ucdavis.edu/MINDInstitute/
*Information on the CNPRC/Staff Scientists can be found at:* http://www.cnprc.ucdavis.edu/index.html