The UC Davis CTSC and the LARRC jointly request submission of proposals in response to this call for projects focused on cognitive aging research in diverse populations to be conducted during the 2015-2016 academic year. These awards are intended to support highly innovative projects that have the potential for high impact, will provide preliminary data for new extramural grant applications, and are intended to support projects focused on cognitive aging in underrepresented minorities.

Funds will be available from $15,000 to a maximum of $20,000 in total costs beginning July 1, 2015. No carry forward of funds will be permitted. Support may be provided for supplies and other research-related expenses; funds may not be used to purchase equipment. PI (and other faculty) salary support is not permissible. The proposal must include at least one trainee at the predoctoral (undergraduate or graduate student) or postdoctoral/clinical fellow level and the role of the trainee in the PI/faculty-driven project must be very clearly defined with a mentoring plan. Criteria in the review of applications include the use of CTSC resources for the proposed project (e.g., community engagement, biomedical informatics, biostatistics, Clinical Research Center); applicants are encouraged to contact CTSC program directors (see http://www.ucdmc.ucdavis.edu/ctsc/).

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 Program is to enhance and augment research areas crucial to translational research by providing support for innovative research projects, the development of new multidisciplinary teams and partnerships, high risk/high impact research, and proposals that include trainees. The LARRC aims to reduce disparities in cognitive health, impairment, related health-care services, and caregiving in older Latinos and their families. The program aims to create a workforce focused on these issues and provides mentoring support. For this call for applications topics of interest include, but are not limited to: vascular risk factors, study of depression, life-course protection, social and cultural factors, supportive structures for families, community-based interventions, as well as process-directed concepts with a clear and sustainable goal such as resource development. Communities are defined broadly as community members, community-based organizations, practice-based providers or groups of providers in community and clinical settings, non-profit agencies, and other organizations.

Eligibility: All full-time members of the UC Davis faculty, including faculty in the adjunct or research series; junior faculty (i.e., Assistant Professor level) are encouraged to apply. Project Scientists can participate as co-investigators or trainees. Applicants are strongly encouraged to include a specific plan for mentoring taking resources available through the LARRC into account.

Application Procedure: Proposals are requested using the required form that can be downloaded from the CTSC Pilot projects website http://www.ucdmc.ucdavis.edu/ctsc/area/pilot/index.html. The submission must include an NIH biographical sketch (4 pages) for each participating investigator including predoctoral or postdoctoral (PhD or clinical fellow) trainees. Deadline date for application receipt is April 1, 2015.
Submitted proposals must use the following format and adhere to the requirements of the form:

- Specific Aims and Hypotheses
- Background, Significance, and Innovation
- Experimental Design
- Rationale for Requested Funds and Specific Plans for Extramural Grant Applications
- Role of Trainee(s) and PI 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 Program will be posted on the CTSC website. In addition, all investigators and their trainees must participate in the annual CTSC Retreat and/or associated workshops; acknowledge the CTSC grant in any abstracts, presentations, or publications (with PMCID numbers); and provide quarterly progress reports, a final report, and an annual report. In addition, the LARRC requires: participation in a 2-hour meeting monthly, attendance at the Resource Centers for Minority Aging Research (RCMAR) annual meeting and citing the LARRC in all presentations and publications that result from this award. Please note that all pilot awardees will also be matched with a LARRC senior mentor.

Application receipt deadline: April 1, 2015
Earliest funding date: July 1, 2015 (projects must be completed by June 30, 2016)

Each PI may submit 1 proposal only. Please email a pdf of the complete application with all components in one pdf to: aftarantal@ucdavis.edu

For questions, please contact: Alice F. Tarantal, PhD (aftarantal@ucdavis.edu) or Lars Berglund, MD, PhD (lberglund@ucdavis.edu)