Claire Burns Cornea Audacious Proposals Grant Program
Department of Ophthalmology & Vision Science
UC Davis Eye Center

Through a generous gift from the family of our patient, Claire Burns, the Department of Ophthalmology & Vision Science is pleased to offer small seed grants for “audacious” proposals focused on cornea in 2018-2019. The intent is to stimulate the testing of bold hypotheses, encourage engagement by experts both inside and outside the specialty field and foster the creation of unique interdisciplinary teams to address unmet clinical needs in cornea and external disease.

The premise of these grants is that investigators will use the funding to support novel ideas for therapeutics for the cornea and external eye that can be translated from bench to bedside. Our goal is to give an opportunity to investigators to explore a new idea with the potential to provide new diagnostic tools or treatments for disabling eye disease. The proposed therapy or diagnostic must:

- Address an unmet need
- Utilize a novel approach
- Have the potential to advance to the clinic or commercialization

Funding

Grants will range from $15,000-$25,000 per grant depending on the specific program and the individual proposal. Funds must be applied to tasks that advance the innovation toward the clinic and must be in compliance with the funding guidelines. As a condition of funding, at least one member of each project team receiving a grant must present quarterly project updates. Funds will not be used to purchase IP services, capital equipment costing more than $5,000 or food. Funding will be spent between November 1, 2018 and December 31, 2019.

Eligible Grantees

Grantees may include UC Davis faculty with PI eligibility, clinical fellows, residents, post-doctoral students, medical students, members of departments in the biological sciences, bioengineering students, and residents or investigators in the School of Veterinary Medicine. Resident applicants are required to include a PI-eligible faculty member as co-PI on the application. Grantees must have an affiliation with UC Davis.
All applications will be reviewed by a committee consisting of academic and industry experts. Any invention will be disclosed to the UC Davis Office of Technology Licensing.

Questions may be directed to Mark Mannis, MD at the UC Davis Eye Center: mjmannis@ucdavis.edu

**Grant application Deadline:** October 15, 2018

**Send application to:** hs-eyecenter@ucdavis.edu

**Application:**

- **A cover sheet** that includes:
  - Title of proposal
  - PI name, degree(s), title, department and email
  - Co-PI & Co-investigator name, title, department and email
  - Office of Technology Licensing disclosure (yes/no) and docket number, if relevant.
  - Amount of funding requested

- **Body of proposal** (1-page limit, at least 10-point font):
  - Description of proposed diagnostic or therapeutic
  - Underlying technology
  - Clinical indication and brief scope of market
  - Current standard of care and unmet need
  - Translational objectives that will be achieved with the funding
  - Development plan (including timeline and plans for funding proposal)
  - Preliminary assessment of regulatory pathway, freedom to operate, IP landscape
- **Budget** (not part of page limit):
  - Allowable expenditures include: investigator’s salary, research personnel salaries, travel (if project-related) and project supplies
  - Unallowable expenditures include: capital equipment costing more than $5,000, intellectual property services, and food
  - Do not include indirect cost expenses

- **Bios** of all relevant staff involved in the project (One paragraph maximum each person; not part of page limit)

**Note:**
- Figures and tables should be included within the body of the proposal
- Do not include appendices to the proposal
- Applications that do not comply with the requirements will not be considered for review
- All materials should be combined and submitted in a single PDF file