LMS SPORE DEVELOPMENTAL RESEARCH PROJECT (DRP) ANNOUNCEMENT
Submission deadline: Letter of Intent: December 15, 2023 (midnight ET)
Full Application: April 22, 2024 (midnight ET)
Please submit to Amy Albert: alberamb@med.umich.edu

Background: The LMS SPORE ("Genetics and Genomics of Leiomyosarcoma: Improved understanding of cancer biology and new approaches to diagnosis and treatment") is a funded NCI SPORE grant, awarded to the University of Michigan. This SPORE is a multi- Cancer Center program that includes Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, Dana Farber/BWH, the University of New South Wales, Huntsman Cancer Institute, Mayo Clinic, MSKCC, The Ohio State, and the University of Toronto. The main projects address: 1) LMS predisposition; 2) biology and targeted therapies; and 3) molecular diagnostics.

Overview: The LMS SPORE seeks applications for Developmental Research Project Awards. The award will be $100,000 per year. A second year of funding is potentially available based on progress report demonstrating substantial progress and high likelihood of long-term success. Please note there are multiple sources of funding contributing to the support of the award. As a result, please provide a subdivided budget (***interested applicants*** should contact alberamb@med.umich.edu for required budget format).

- One budget column for $50,000 total costs (NIH funding - you may use your institutionally negotiated F&A rate, if required).
- Second budget column for $50,000 direct dollars (philanthropic support for which no IDC is permitted).

DRP applications should address translational challenges in LMS research or sarcomas with complex genomic and biologic features, including dedifferentiated liposarcoma, pleomorphic undifferentiated sarcoma, myxofibrosarcoma, rhabdomyosarcoma, or osteosarcoma. Leiomyosarcoma has an 89% mutation rate of TP53 (PMID 33788262) and surprisingly 13% of TP53 mutations occur in the germline. TP53 germline mutations are associated with LI-Fraumeni Syndrome (LFS) which often leads to a cancer including breast carcinoma and soft tissue sarcomas especially rhabdomyosarcoma and osteosarcoma. Grants proposing translational research of DNA damage repair or new innovative diagnostics relevant to the SPORE will also be considered. The research must be conducted in academic medical centers within the United States, or the University of Toronto, or the Garvan Institute. Please contact Steven Robinson, MBBS (DRP Co-leader) with questions: Robinson.Steven@mayo.edu.

Underrepresented minority candidates are encouraged to apply.

Two Step Process
Initially, interested candidates are asked to submit a letter of intent. Following committee review, selected candidates will be invited to submit a full proposal.

Key Dates (2024):
Initially, interested candidates are asked to submit a letter of intent. Following committee review, selected candidates will be invited to submit a full proposal.

- Dec 15, 2023: LOI due (midnight ET)
- Feb 1, 2024: Finalists notified
- April 22, 2024: Finalist applications due
- Sept 1, 2024: Funding start date

Letter of Intent:
The LOI should consist of:

- Proposed research (2 page maximum)
- Applicant NIH Biosketch

Full Application:
The full application should consist of:

1. Research plan (6-page limit, not including References. **Statistical design and analytical plans must be included.**)
2. NIH format Biosketch
3. Letter of support from departmental chair (an academic track must be specified)
4. A separate letter of support from a mentor is requested if the investigator is an instructor or new Assistant Professor
5. Proposed budget and budget justification