

Heather Ryan and L. David Dubé Veterinary Health and Research Fund

Funding of major collaborative team research projects in equine health and well being

As a result of the 2 for 1 matching program we have \$200,000 to allocate this year. Application budgets can be for up to \$200,000 per year for 3 years.

Grant amounts are expected to be higher than those given by the EHRF (EHRF grants are ≤\$30,000) but obviously no greater than \$200,000 per year. The review committee will decide on the number and value of grants depending on the number and caliber of applications. Grants are to support research in all areas of equine health and well being. Some areas that could be supported are equine medicine and infectious diseases, lameness, orthopedics, surgical techniques, performance, diagnostics and therapeutics but not research specific to the development and application of reproductive technologies. The Associate Dean of Research of the Western College of Veterinary Medicine will solicit applications for the research grants and set a deadline. Applications will be solicited from collaborative research groups, consisting of faculty from all areas of the WCVM but not excluding members from other Colleges at the U of S and other institutions. It is expected that appropriate expertise will be drawn from every relevant area of the College. The research grants are aimed at producing a significant enhancement to equine research not attainable by regular Equine Health Research fund grants. Problems addressed should be of major significance to equine health and well being. It is hoped that the research grants will afford opportunities for leveraging funds from other sources outside of the WCVM and U of S.

The Application Process:

There is no pre-prepared application form. Applications should include the following: -

The team: - (1 page or less). The principal investigator and all members of the team should be listed and brief summary curriculum vitae attached (no more than 5 pages for each CV). All team members should sign the application as well as relevant department heads. The involvement of each team member should be justified; what their role will be, what expertise they bring, etc. Describe the team synergy. (ie value added effect of the team versus individuals working alone).

Summary: - (500 words or less). Describe in lay terms how this research project provides major impact to a critical area of equine health and well being. Why is a large grant and research team needed to approach this problem? Summarize the project with expected findings and impact.

Research plan: - (5 pages or less). Provide clear background, rationale, hypotheses, objective and sufficient experimental detail to allow evaluation. It is appreciated that later phases of the work will depend on early findings and maybe outline in less detail.

References: - (1 page or less).

Budget: - (2 pages or less).

(1) General for a 3 year period

(2) Detailed for Year 1

Provide sufficient justification for all budget items.

(3) Eligible expenses

(a) personnel: post doctoral fellows, research associates, graduate students (non-clinical) and technicians. Inclusion of personnel to facilitate the continuity of research where clinical faculty are involved is encouraged.

(b) materials, supplies, animals, animal housing.

(c) publication costs (up to \$1,000 per year).

(d) travel for research purposes and to scientific meetings (up to \$1,000 per year).

(e) equipment less than \$5,000.

Time-lines: - (1 page or less). Please broadly outline the time-lines over the 3 year period.

Other Support: - (1 page or less). Briefly list research support held by each team member and if any of this is for the same or similar project to the present team project explain and justify the overlap.

Leveraging: - (1/4 of a page or less). Describe the plans to try to leverage other sources of funds for this project.

The Review Process

The Dean of the WCVM will establish an appropriate review committee. This committee will consist of the Associate Dean Research, a member of the EHRF Board, an equine specialist from an other Canadian College of Veterinary Medicine and a member of the WCVM faculty who will not apply for research support from this source. This committee may solicit expert advice and input to ensure complete and objective evaluation of applications.

The review committee will consider the scientific quality of the application, its impact on equine health and well being and how the proposal meets the criteria of providing a significant enhancement to equine research at the WCVM. The quality of presentation will be considered. The quality and synergy of the team will be important. Realistic goals and time-lines will be important and the appropriateness of the budget will be carefully scrutinized.

A clear description of plans for leveraging will be expected.

Allocation of Funds, Conditions of Award and Reporting

- Research projects will be funded by annual installments. After the first year subsequent installments will be made subject to acceptable progress of the project.
- All expenditures must be consistent with the research and spending plan set out in the research grant application.

- Unexpended funds will be returned to the Research Fund after 3 years from the date of the award unless a written request for an extension is received and approved by the Associate Dean (Research).
- Any over expenditure of funds is the sole responsibility of the applicant.
- Recipients of research grants from the Research Fund are required to formally acknowledge the financial support of the Fund in any presentation and publication of the results of the research, and to submit to the Associate Dean (Research), WCVN:
 - Each year, a brief (not more than 1,000 words) progress report written in lay language that includes any deviation from the original research plan or proposed budget, and a justification for the changes;
 - Each year, an annual statement of receipts, expenditures, and commitments.
 - Upon completion of the research, a final report written in lay language; (ten pages or less) and
 - Copies of all published paper(s) describing research supported by the Research Fund.

October 1, 2009