

## The Ivy Fund: Accelerating Biomedical Innovation at U.Va.

### CALL FOR PROPOSALS

*Application Deadline: October 22, 2008*

- Program:** A new U.Va. fund created by the Ivy Foundation supports biomedical innovation and translational research projects. In the first year of the program we expect to make 3 to 5 awards averaging \$50,000 each for 12 months, although the award size is flexible and will be commensurate with the project stage and goals and may range from \$20,000 to \$80,000. To generate especially novel and compelling ideas, we encourage projects that involve faculty co-investigators from multiple departments, schools, or specialties at U.Va.. We also welcome proposals from individual investigators or teams from single departments that are appropriate for a given innovation project. The goal of this program is to support research projects that address unmet clinical needs and lead to improvements in health care. Examples of desirable outcomes include improved diagnosis and treatment of disease through inventions and patents, commercial products, commercial partnerships, licenses and start-up companies. Awarded project teams will benefit from the feedback and availability of the Ivy Biomedical Innovation Review Board and Governing Board (a list of Review Board and Governing Board members will be available to applicants). Both short-term and long-term projects are eligible, as we expect this program to grow in magnitude over future years.
- Eligibility:** Permanent, full-time, tenure-track faculty at each professorial rank (assistant, associate, or full professor).
- Criteria:** Each proposal must have at least one investigator whose primary salaried faculty appointment is at the University of Virginia. Proposed research must relate directly to applications in health care, and the objectives of the project should include an outcome that will benefit patients. Evaluation of each proposal will be based on scientific/clinical merit, potential health care impact and significance, experience of the investigator(s), and the potential for commercialization and for successfully obtaining further support. The program expects to select 3 to 5 projects per year for funding.
- Submission:** It is highly recommended that applicants submit a ½ page abstract on their project and discuss their proposal with **David Chen, Director, Translational Research** (434.243.7357; [davidchen@virginia.edu](mailto:davidchen@virginia.edu)) or **Jeffrey Plank, Associate Vice**

**President for Research (434-924-6901; jp4q@virginia.edu)** prior to submission. David and Jeffrey as well as selected members of the Review and Governing Boards will provide feedback to teams. **Investigators must submit the final proposal by October 22, 2008 via e-mail to davidchen@virginia.edu.** The Review Board will review the proposals and make recommendations on funding priority in early November, 2008. *Final candidates will give a presentation to the Board in mid-November 2008.* Funding will begin December 1, 2008.

Applications should not exceed five pages, *excluding* a cover page, a budget page, and two-page CVs from the co-investigators. Use Arial font of 12 point size. The cover page must contain the project title, names of the investigator(s), amount requested, a one-paragraph summary, and the approval/signature of the department chair(s). Award recipients will be required to prepare one 6-month progress report and a final report for the Review Board and Governing Board. Approvals for animal and/or human subjects (if needed), will be required “just in time” after awards are announced.

Final proposals will include these components:

- Specific milestones and research plan for achieving them
- Explanation of clinical relevancy of research (e.g., envisioned product, clinical need)
- Intellectual property status, strategy and plan
- List of current funding and pending proposals for each co-investigator
- Plan for funding after Ivy Foundation award expires

**Duration:** Grants will be for a one-year period, and may be renewed on a competitive basis with new applications. Competitive renewal applications must have a comparison of milestones achieved vs. those planned in the original submission. We expect that some projects may be renewed for up to three years.

**Budgets:** Eligible budget items include salary support (faculty, graduate students, and other research staff), operating supplies, minor equipment items, prototyping expenses, imaging time and travel directly associated with the research activity. Funds cannot be for administrative support or for tuition. Most grant budgets should not exceed \$50,000 in direct costs for a one-year period.