Donald W. Reynolds Foundation Grant at UCSF

“Program to Strengthen Geriatrics Education for Medical Students, Residents and Practicing Faculty Physicians”

Principal Investigator: C. Bree Johnston MD, MPH
Professor of Clinical Medicine
Associate Chief for Education,
Geriatrics Division, Dept. of Medicine

Small Educational Grants Project: *Call for Proposals*

Total Commitment of $15,000 (individual grants of $2000 - 5000) to be awarded for 2008 - 2009

Deadline for Proposal Receipt:
September 30, 2008

Notification of Awards:
No later than October 31, 2008, for projects to start January 1, 2009 and to be completed by June 30, 2009

Background:

UCSF was awarded a four year grant from the Reynolds Foundation Aging and Quality of Life Program in July 2006. The purpose of the grant is to build upon UCSF’s institutional strengths to expand geriatrics training at the undergraduate, graduate, and faculty levels.

Objective of Call for Proposals:

The Donald W. Reynolds Project Team at UCSF solicits proposals to develop or expand activities to strengthen training of students and physicians in geriatric issues. Of particular interest are planning new initiatives that may lead to long-lasting improvements in UCSF’s education and training of physicians in issues relevant to the care of an aging population. Key to successful proposals will be evidence of a long-term commitment to geriatrics education, clearly defined goals and objectives, reference to previous geriatrics or related curricular products and/or initiatives, and the availability of, or a plan to secure, sufficient geriatrics expertise to achieve the stated objectives.
Proposed activities should address one or both of the following Reynolds Grant goals:

1) Provide and promote geriatrics education and training in the UCSF School of Medicine for medical students, residency trainees, and teaching faculty;

2) Develop or enhance clinical geriatrics educational experiences that span the continuum of care for older adults. Proposed activities should be aimed at teaching knowledge of fundamental aspects of human aging and its implications for disease processes, competence in geriatric assessment and care coordination, competence in managing care transitions for older adults across the continuum, and skills in managing the clinical conditions and special problems of the frail elderly.

Possible Activities:

The primary purpose of this initiative is to facilitate development of activities to support future geriatrics education programs in the specified disciplines and long-range planning for geriatrics education programs. Listed below are examples of the types of activities which might be included in the planning:

- Curriculum development in geriatrics
- Program development to support clinical training in geriatrics
- Faculty development in geriatrics relevant to the specific specialty or subspecialty
- Development of exportable educational products that derive from the above activities

Scope of Program:

A total of $15,000 has been allocated for these grants. Individual grants between $2000 and $5000 will be awarded to no fewer than three UCSF faculty members in the School of Medicine to execute geriatrics educational projects.

Evaluation Criteria:

The following major factors will be considered in the evaluation of proposals. They are not listed in any specific order of priority.

- The "value-added" of the proposed activities, as measured by the gap that will be filled between the department/division's current geriatrics training and projected results;
- Demonstrated awareness of relevant curricula activities and products that are already disseminated through resources such as MedEdPortal (www.aamc.org/mededportal) and POGOe (www.pogoe.org) and may be suitable for adapting to your project, as well as gaps based on the literature that your project is designed to fill;
• The potential impact of the project in terms of the numbers of students, residents or faculty who will be reached;
• Demonstrated commitment of the department/division’s leadership to strengthening training in geriatrics;
• Ability of the grantee to sustain the project beyond the funding period;
• Strength and qualifications in geriatrics of those who will be responsible for leading and implementing the proposed project;
• The innovativeness of the proposed project;
• A plan to evaluate the results of the program, when implemented;
• The appropriateness of the proposed budget.

**Components of the Proposal:**

Acceptable proposals should be no longer than 4 pages and should include the following information:

- A cover sheet that includes the name of the department/division, title of the project, amount of the requested grant, the name and contact information of the individual responsible for the project, and the signature of the Department Chair;
- Rationale for the proposed project, including documentation of need;
- Description of the proposed activities, including methodology, personnel, and timeline for completion;
- Evaluation plan, or a description of how the impact of the project will be evaluated, when implemented;
- Assurance of continuation of the activities or implementation of planned activities beyond the funding period;
- Budget and budget justification.

In addition, 2-page biographical profiles should be submitted for key personnel. Letters from the Department Chair and/or other key leadership officials in the School may also be included.

**Limitations on Expenditures under Grant Budget:**

- These funds are NOT to be used for direct patient care. Geriatric health service programs may be supported to the extent that these funds are utilized to provide a base for educational activities. Such funding is limited to:
  a) Planning for and development of services in which geriatrics teaching will take place
  b) Release time to allow service providers time to teach.

- These funds are limited to faculty within the School of Medicine or for purposes of teaching students or residents in the School of Medicine.
Timetable:

Proposals must be received in the UCSF Division of Geriatrics office by 5:00 pm Pacific Standard Time, September 19, 2008. A signed original and three copies of the proposal should be submitted.

Awards will be announced no later than October 31.

Grant-supported activities may commence any time after January 1, 2009 and should be completed by June 30, 2010.

Proposals should be delivered to:
Joan Abrams, MA, MPA
Academic Coordinator for Geriatrics Education Programs
UCSF Division of Geriatrics
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Box 1265
San Francisco, CA 94118

For questions, contact:
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Prospective applicants are encouraged to discuss their proposals with either Dr. Johnston or Ms. Abrams.