The Skin Diseases Research Center (SDRC) of the Department of Dermatology is accepting applications for pilot projects to be funded as of July 1, 2010 for its NIH P30 Skin Center Grant.

See the SDRC’s programs at: [www.sdrc.cumc.columbia.edu](http://www.sdrc.cumc.columbia.edu)

The Pilot and Feasibility Study (P&F) Program provides one year of funding to new investigators or established scientists to provide an opportunity to test new hypotheses, collect preliminary data and develop these projects into a related, independently funded research project. The goal of the P&F program is to encourage investigators outside of skin research to explore projects bringing them into the field. It is imperative that the P&F Studies utilize the Core Facilities which provide access to state-of-the-art equipment and services. These pilot grants are intended to support feasibility studies that will establish a basis for applying for further research funding.

**CORES and SERVICES:**

**A. Skin Phenotyping Core** - The Skin Phenotyping Core provides a wide array of histological, immunohistochemical, and molecular-based tools to characterize gross and microscopic morphology, functional features and gene expression in skin of mutant and genetically engineered laboratory animals.

**B. Cell and Tissue Kinetics Core** - The Cell and Tissue Core provides freshly harvested newborn human epidermal keratinocytes and dermal fibroblasts, keratinocyte and fibroblast cell strains, irradiated 3T3 feeder cells, and organotypic/transgenic skin cultures. The core also provides freshly harvested epidermal keratinocytes from newborn and adult mice.

**C. Molecular Biology Core** - The Molecular Core provides In Situ labeling of genetic alterations, qPCR, and automated DNA isolation from plasmids, tail DNA or blood using the Autogen 850alpha Nucleic Acid Extraction System.

**ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:** A faculty-level appointment at Columbia University.

**PROPOSAL FORMAT:** NIH PHS 398 Format. Provide a 5 page maximum description of the project, an NIH-style biosketch (including other support), a budget and a statement of facilities. In addition, provide justification for the use of at least two or more of the cores.

**BUDGET:** Four to five individual awards will be made for $20,000-25,000 in direct costs.

**APPLICATION DEADLINE:** Applications due by 5:00 p.m. on February 16, 2010

Submit proposals to: Catherine Konradt
Administrative Coordinator
Department of Dermatology
VC 15-202
212-305-8632
cjk2129@columbia.edu

More information: Dr. Angela M. Christiano: amc65@columbia.edu