BBSRC co-funding scheme with the National Institute on Aging

UK-US collaborative funding in the biology of ageing

The Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC) and the National Institute on Aging (NIA) are keen to continue to encourage UK-US collaborative research on the biology of ageing. Thus, a co-funding scheme has been established whereby BBSRC will support the UK component of joint UK-US projects submitted to the NIA grant funding system. Links with information regarding submission deadlines and the application process are listed below:

Submission deadlines:
http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/submissionschedule.htm

Application process:
Opportunity Announcement Number PA-11-260: Research Project Grant (Parent R01)
http://grants1.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-11-260.html

Applications must be submitted via the NIA and follow the NIA submission guidelines and policies. The R01 application form (linked above) should be used. The US partner must be the Primary Investigator (US nomenclature) and the UK partner should be set out as a subcontract. Details of the NIA application process can be viewed at the link above, but some essential additional information for the UK partners is set out below:

1. UK applicants **must be eligible for BBSRC research funding** and the standard BBSRC responsive mode eligibility rules apply. Full details of eligibility conditions can be found in the BBSRC Grants Guide

2. The UK component must fall within the BBSRC remit and for the purpose of this co-funding scheme, only applications that address one or more of the following specific topic areas will be considered at this time:
   - Age-related effects of diet on bacteria and gut health - Discovering how interactions between nutrition, the gut microbiota and host tissues influence health in later life
   - Ageing bladder & bowel - The underpinning biology and physiology of the ageing bladder and bowel, and the maintenance of homeostasis and function throughout the lifecourse
   - Age-related changes in circadian rhythms and sleep- How the ageing process affects circadian/biological rhythms and sleep, and implications for health and wellbeing in later life.

3. The UK research component should be integrated in the overall research plan.

4. A **Lead Investigator** (US nomenclature) for the UK component must be designated. Note: On the Je-S form this will be the UK Principal Investigator. Further UK investigators may be identified and costed on the subcontract (co-investigators on the Je-S form). The institution of the Lead Investigator will be responsible for receiving and distributing BBSRC funding.

5. UK lead investigator is required to complete a Je-S form, but the form **SHOULD NOT** be submitted electronically to the BBSRC at this stage. Applicants should generate a standard proposal proforma using the following instructions:

   a. Log in to your Je-S account
      From the left hand menu, select **Documents**
      Under functions on the Main Menu, select **Create New Document**
      In the Add New Document screen - Select Council **BBSRC**

Select document type **Standard Proposal**
Select scheme **Small Grants**
Select Call / Type Mode **UK Partner Funding**
Select **Create Document**

b. Only the costings for the UK component of the project should be entered onto the Je-S Form and are subject to the current requirements on Full Economic Costing as described in the BBSRC Grants Guide

c. Applicants do not need to complete the following document data when developing this Je-S document:
   - Classifications
   - Ethical Information
   - Case for support
   - Justification of resources
   - Pathways to Impact

d. All other 'Document data' sections of the Document Menu will need to be completed if relevant to the application, including the **Impact Summary** and **Academic Beneficiary** sections. Please note, applicants should select the 'blank' choice in the **Mode** field in **Project Details** section. This is a blank space at the top of the menu above the listed schemes. Applicants should not select any of the other schemes

e. Travel costs: As this is a collaborative proposal BBSRC would anticipate that appropriate travel costs will be requested to cover visits to US partner and one grantee workshop to be held in the US.

f. PhD students are not funded as part of a standard research proposal

g. Applicants should also prepare CVs for investigators and researchers; these should be in PDF format and follow the BBSRC CV guidance as detailed in the BBSRC Grants Guide

h. Once all relevant details have been completed, the **Document Menu** option 'Create Document for Printing' (in Document Import / Export section) should be selected. On clicking this link, the 'Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF)' print format should be selected within the pop-up window, and the resultant downloaded/emailed file should be saved locally.

i. The completed PDF documents (Je-S proforma and CVs) should then be emailed to Coll.Age@bbsrc.ac.uk by 5pm on Thursday 10 January 2013. These will be checked for eligibility, fit to BBSRC remit and scope of topic areas. A letter of support will be issued to the UK applicant which must be forwarded to the US Principal Investigator for inclusion as a supplementary document in the application.

j. The letter of support will state that in the event the application is successful, BBSRC will fund the UK component of the collaboration, subject to budget.

6. The UK Lead Investigator must send an electronic copy of the full submitted NIA application form to BBSRC (Coll.Age@bbsrc.ac.uk)

7. For any queries on specific UK issues please use Coll.Age@bbsrc.ac.uk or contact:

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