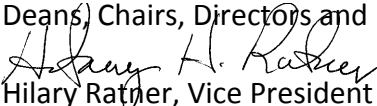


## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Deans, Chairs, Directors and Faculty

**FROM:**   
Hilary Ratner, Vice President for Research

**SUBJECT:** **President's Research Enhancement Program in Urban and Public Health**

**CC:** Jay Noren, President  
Nancy Barrett, Provost

**DATE:** October 8, 2009

The eighth year of funding has been announced for the President's Research Enhancement Program (REP). This program is designed to strengthen the University's performance as a nationally recognized research university, as described in the Strategic Action Plan, and is intended to contribute toward developing research themes for the University that are consistent with an emphasis on the urban mission and a global presence.

President Noren has designated this year's REP funds to support research in Urban and Public Health, including, but not limited to:

- Economic impact of health and biomedical research
- Environmental factors in urban health, such as air quality, water quality, urban stress
- Epigenomic indicators of childhood and/or chronic disease
- Global comparative research in public health: implications for prevention and/or policy
- Community-based research relevant to public health program delivery and/or policy
- Public health approaches to major urban health problems: diabetes, cardiovascular disease, obesity, cancer, asthma, substance abuse, among others
- Health outcome disparities in underserved populations

The range of funding for a single project is expected to be \$50,000 to \$100,000.

Individual faculty members and research teams led by full-time faculty are invited, by means of this memo, to develop proposals that are responsive to this funding announcement. Henry Ford Health System faculty are eligible to participate.

A **meeting** will be held on **November 3 from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.** in **room 6202** (sixth floor) of **5057 Woodward Avenue** to provide an overview of the funding guidelines and answer questions about this program. During the pre-proposal meeting, an overview of the funding guidelines will be provided. Potential applicants are highly encouraged to attend; however, if schedule conflicts prevent participation in the meeting, questions may be addressed to Sarah James in the Office of the Vice President for Research (OVPR) at 577-8997.

There are no proposal forms. The assessment of submissions will proceed in three phases as follows:

**Phase 1:** Principal Investigators should e-mail a Letter of Intent (LOI) to the OVPR to [sjames@wayne.edu](mailto:sjames@wayne.edu).

The LOI should be limited to three-to-four pages in which the following are summarized: (1) research objectives and plan, (2) participating faculty/researcher staff, (3) budget in the form of a spreadsheet (maximum 18-month budget), (4) potential external funding sources and timeline for submitting proposals to these sources, and (5) potential of the project to enhance graduate programs, extramural research funding, institutional reputation, and/or undergraduate education. **Biosketches (not to exceed four pages)** of the participating faculty should be appended. LOI's and biosketches are due by e-mail attachment in one pdf document no later than 5:00 PM on **November 23, 2009**.

**Phase 2:** An advisory committee consisting of faculty and representatives from the OVPR will evaluate the LOI's on the following criteria:

- Relevance of project to the intent of the REP
- Significance of the project
- Demonstrated excellence of the participating faculty
- Clarity and viability of the research or project plan
- Appropriate composition of multidisciplinary teams, when applicable
- Contribution toward advancing graduate programs, research experience for undergraduate students, or institutional reputation
- Potential to secure external grant funding, a fellowship award, or a commission for further study or dissemination of the project

Inclusion of Graduate Research Assistants or post-doctoral students in the budget is encouraged.

Investigators will be selected from the Letters of Intent to develop full proposals. **This initial review will be completed by December 23, 2009 and investigators will be notified shortly thereafter.**

October 8, 2009

**Phase 3:** Complete proposals including summary, narrative, and full budget **will be due in PDF format to the OVPR by e-mail ([sjames@wayne.edu](mailto:sjames@wayne.edu)) no later than 5:00 PM on March 17, 2010.** Proposals require the approval of all deans of the faculty involved. External reviews will be solicited to assess scientific merit, likelihood of external funding and other criteria for final award decisions. **Award recipients will be informed by the Office of the President no later than May 17, 2010** Funding will be contingent upon the availability of funds at that time; however, the President's commitment is to give a high priority to the support of research even in difficult financial times.

We look forward to receiving your Letters of Intent.