CMEI (https://medicine.osu.edu/departments/cmei) announces its second round of Interdisciplinary Pilot Grant funding. Grants of up to $25,000 will be awarded for support September 1, 2021-August 31, 2022. This Pilot Grant Program advances interdisciplinary collaborations between the Health Sciences Colleges and the College of Engineering and can involve other OSU colleges in biomedical-related research. Up to 3 awards may be funded.

These are one-year grants to support pilot research that initiates or substantiates collaborations between two or more faculty investigators (designated Co-PIs) at least one of whom must be within COE and one within one of the Health Sciences Colleges. Of particular interest is the piloting of innovative approaches (ideas, technologies, devices) directed at basic or clinically relevant biomedical research. In this round of funding, special consideration will be given to applications addressing the following topics: Aging, Artificial Intelligence, Neuroengineering, and One Health.

A goal of the program is to assist faculty in obtaining preliminary data that may lead to a collaborative interdisciplinary grant application to the NIH or other agencies/foundations. Post-award outcomes will be surveyed.

Applications should meet the following criteria:
• The collaboration of at least two investigators from different Schools as Co-PIs; one must be in COE and one must be in one of the Health Sciences Colleges.
• A clear statement of the enhanced impact of the interdisciplinary approach to the proposed project must be included.
• Indication of how the preliminary work will lead to a full peer-reviewed grant proposal during or subsequent to the termination of the support is required.
• A brief cover letter stating commitment from each of the Co-PIs.
• A two page (maximum) biosketch for each Co-PI.
• A list of current and pending research support of the Co-PIs.

The application is restricted to 4 pages including a simple budget section. The cover letter, Co-PI biosketches, current and pending support and literature citations are not included in the page limit. Sections to be covered within the 4 pages are:

1. Introduction/Specific Aims
2. Background/Significance
3. Preliminary Data (optional)—“out-of-the-box” thinking is encouraged
4. Research Design and Methods
5. Summary of Collaborative Added Value
6. Simple budget

Faculty salary is not eligible for support. Studies proposing human or animal studies must comply with university procedures. Formal submission to and approval of IACUC and IRB Committees is not required at the time of submission but is required for release of funds to occur. Applications submitted after 5 p.m. Friday, July 30, 2021 will not be considered. Awards will be announced by August 20, 2021 with funding to start September 1, 2021.

Applications should be submitted as a SINGLE PDF to: cmei@osumc.edu. For additional information, contact Dr. David Eckmann at david.eckmann@osumc.edu, phone 614-685-8274.