Terms of Service, Core B: Mouse Genetics

Purpose: The objective of the Mouse Genetics Core is to provide expertise and support for the generation of transgenic and knockout mice.

Initiation of Projects: At the beginning of each fiscal year, all NINDS-funded investigators with transgenic injection needs will be asked to submit a request stating an estimated number of injections. The requests will be considered by the faculty Director (Dr. Obrietan) in consultation with the Steering Committee and prioritized based on i) injections that immediately support current NINDS-funded projects, ii) collaborative projects, and iii) new directions that the Steering Committee agrees are a reasonable venture that could result in new research programs that adhere to NINDS goals. The Core Director will also meet with any PI that needs consultation on the best approach to make a particular transgenic mouse. Certification of animal health, maintenance of the sentinel mouse program, and building maintenance issues will be the responsibility of University Laboratory Animal Resources (ULAR), run by Dr. Valerie Bergdall.

Services: Transgenic staff will be in charge of generating transgenic lines, knockout generation, including maintenance of ES cell lines, electroporation, colony picks, and screening for homologous recombination. They will also advise investigators on strategies for screening, breeding and target vector design (gene disruption and conditional).

User Responsibilities: Upon preliminary acceptance of a project by the Core and determination of estimated (minimum and maximum) costs, the User and Core Director will, where applicable, make arrangements regarding intellectual property rights and authorship issues. Communication regarding scientific questions and outcome of experiments should primarily be communicated directly between the Core Director and User, and the User needs to communicate these terms of service to lab-members involved in the project. The Core Director may allow logistical or technical issues, such as the timing of individual experiments, to be directly discussed with Core personnel. The User agrees to acknowledge grant P30 NS045758 in any and all publications stemming from data provided to the User by the Core. The User acknowledges that the Core reserves the right to halt or cancel experiments if: A) a minimal likelihood of completion is indicated by the results obtained, B) the User fails to provide requested information on experiments or animals from the Core Director or Core personnel, C) the feasibility of attaining the experimental goals become unrealistic, D) non-adherence by the User to proper personal conduct and/or violation of university rules/procedures.

Costs: Through the P30 NS045758, the costs to the User is significantly subsidized by the Core by providing expertise, labor, and equipment. In addition, the Core will subsidize half of the injection cost ($1500) and provide an additional $1,000 to support per diem charges for 21 weeks, the time it typically takes to
perform an initial characterization of 10 founder lines/construct (~ $0.75/cage per day). The cost for ES cell work, electroporation and colony picks is $4,000. Through this Core we will subsidize half of the cost of ES cell work ($2,000). Approximately half of the per diem costs ($500) associated with characterization of germ line transmission and expansion of the line will be supported. If the cost of generating transgenic and knockout lines increases during the period of this grant award, our subsidies will be capped at the amounts listed above. This is due to the constraints of the grant budget.