The JBE College of Dental Medicine at MUSC is initiating a grant program funded by the Dean and administered through the Office of Faculty Affairs and Assessment. The purpose is to enhance the development of basic, and applied and translational clinical research data to support the production of peer-reviewed publications and preparation of grant applications competitive for external research funding. Oral health challenges of the U.S. population incur annual expenditures of over $111 Billion (ca. 2012) to address the individual, community, and societal impacts of infections, cancer, chronic pain, and congenital and acquired craniofacial abnormalities. Additionally, recent national and global data have documented clear associations of chronic oral infections with the sequelae of various general health conditions, including cardiovascular disease, diabetes, adverse pregnancy outcomes, and most recently Alzheimer’s disease. Finally, the ability to implement known and effective preventive and interventive therapies for oral diseases could significantly benefit the overall health of the population, but requires substantive improvements in oral health literacy and application and assessment of novel behavioral models.

Thus, there appears robust opportunities for collaborative research approaches to impact oral health across the lifespan.

Grant Pilot Award (GPA)

1 award in the amount of $25,000, up to 12-month research period

Requirements for award:

1) Principal investigator from the MUSC College of Dental Medicine
2) Requirement for at least 1 co-investigator from another MUSC College or a collaborator from another university, priority will be given to MUSC partners and regional universities/colleges
3) Funds can be used for any research expense except faculty salaries and fringe benefits

Application Process

The grant application should follow the R21 guidelines.


The grant application should include the abstract, project narrative, facilities and resources, equipment, key personnel and biosketches of all investigators, detailed budget (not modular) and personnel justification, 6 page research /strategy, vertebrate animals, human subjects sections, IRB/IACUC approvals, references cited, consortium/contractual agreements, letters of support as specified in the R21 applications. In the NIH biosketch, in addition to the traditional NIH guidelines, the PI should list their past 5 years productivity on grants submitted, grants
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funded, manuscripts published from all research work in the past and not limited to the focus of the current application (maximum of 3 additional pages).

Metrics for award success for the GPA grant will be use of the data to support an ongoing grant application including generation of new data for resubmission, or the development of a new grant application to the NIH or NSF. The GPA award should result in a manuscript.

Deadline for submission of the completed applications will be 5PM Friday March 2, 2018. Applications to be submitted to Ashlina Chin (chinas@musc.edu) and cc Dr. Pilcher (pilchees@musc.edu). Receipt of application will be acknowledged within 2 business days. Review of each proposal will be obtained from 2 independent reviewers within or outside MUSC based upon expertise needed for the project.

**Application review and criteria**

- Overall significance of project
- Strength of investigators
- Innovation
- Investigative approach
- Environment, including mentors and resources
- Appropriateness of budget expenditures

**Key Dates**

- Invitation to submit application January 2, 2018
- Full application due March 2, 2018
- Notice of Award June 1, 2018
- Funding available July 1, 2018

**Award Details:**

- IRB approval or exemption will be required prior to release of funds.
- Progress reports are due at 6 month and 12 months (final report)
- By accepting these funds, you agree to cite the MUSC GPA grant in any publication or presentation
- Business Manager Responsibilities: PI’s Department/Division Business Manager shall be responsible for all human resource, procurement and reconciliation activities for the funded project accounts.