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 interventional 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.

Scholar Awards (SA)

up to 3 awards given each for up to a maximum of $5000., up to 12-month research period

Requirements for the awards include:

1) Principal investigator from the MUSC College of Dental Medicine
2) Outside collaborator not required, but preference will be given to development of collaborative research projects
3) Funds can be used for any research expense except faculty salaries and fringe benefits

Application Process

Applications will require a 5-page proposal. Page 1 to include Title, Key (PI, Collaborators and Consultants) Investigators, and Budget Summary, Page 2 to include Specific Aim(s), and the following 3 pages detailing Background and Significance, Approach and Anticipated Outcomes, References (not included in page limit). Letters of support from collaborators/consultants, detailed budget (maximum one page), use of human subjects or animals in the studies with the appropriate IRB or IACUC approval should be included in the appendix.

The SA will be expected to develop new or additional data needed to support the preparation and submission of a peer-reviewed publication(s) in any field related to oral health. The SA awards should result in a manuscript.
Deadline for submission of the completed applications will be 5PM Friday March 2, 2019. Applications to be submitted to Haley Woods (woodshal@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, 2019
- Full application due March 2, 2019
- Notice of Award June 1, 2019
- Funding available July 1, 2019

**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 SA 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.