The South Carolina Clinical & Translational Research Institute (SCTR) and the MUSC Foundation for Research Development (FRD) are pleased to announce Nancy DeMore and Jennifer Wu as recipients of SCTR/FRD Technology Development Grant awards. Through this mechanism, SCTR's Therapeutics Translation Core (TTC), in conjunction with the MUSC FRD, provides funding of up to $25,000 to advance innovative, clinically relevant technologies into marketed products.

“With a much broader mission beyond intellectual property, FRD is proud to be a contributor to this granting effort since funding technology translation is a critical component to MUSC’s research and innovation strategy,” said Michael Rusnak, the Executive Director of MUSC’s Foundation for Research Development.

The awards support short-term (six month) studies designed to improve the commercial value of the technologies by strengthening the intellectual property (IP) and moving technologies further down the development pathway, thus increasing the partnerships and licensing opportunities with pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies.

Nancy DeMore, MD, FACS is Professor of Surgery and BMW SmartState Endowed Chair in Cancer Research at the Medical University of South Carolina. Her project, "Development of Novel Monoclonal Antibody for Melanoma", seeks to limit melanoma growth through a novel antibody and inhibitor.

Jennifer Wu, PhD, is Associate Professor in the Department of Microbiology & Immunology at the Medical University of South Carolina. Her project, "Developing a Fusion Molecule to Advance Current Proprietary Cancer Immunotherapeutic Technology", aims to optimize current technology for cancer treatment and stimulate anti-tumor immune responses.

To learn more about the SCTR CTSA program at MUSC, visit www.musc.edu/sctr. For more general information about the CTSA program, visit http://ncats.nih.gov/ctsa. A description of each program and its lead investigator is available upon request. To learn more about the Foundation for Research Development, visit http://academicdepartments.musc.edu/frd.