# 附件2: 美NIH向其院内研究人员发布的"院内项目指南"(英文)

# Call for Proposals for U.S.-China Biomedical Collaborative Research onCancer, Mental Health, Parkinson's Disease (PD), and Stroke, Allergy, Immunology and Infectious Diseases Including HIV/AIDS and its Co-Morbidities

# TIMELINE:

Letter of Interest Deadline:	August 18, 2012
Proposal Submission Deadline:	September 18, 2012, by 5:00 PM local time of
	applicant organization
Review:	October 2012-July 2013
NIH Award Notification:	August 2013

# PURPOSE:

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) of the United States (U.S.) Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) supports and undertakes international collaborative biomedical research to advance science and expand biomedical knowledge. Scientific cooperation between the U.S. and the People's Republic of China was initiated over 30 years ago and has grown rapidly in recent years. Recognizing that enhanced cooperative biomedical research would be of mutual benefit to the U.S. and China, the NIH Director and the President of the National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) in October, 2010.

NIH and NSFC further signed an Implementing Arrangement (IA) in December 2010 to develop a new U.S.-China Program for Biomedical Research Cooperation. A Joint Working Group (JWG), made up of a specified number of members from both NIH and NSFC, was assembled to develop strategic plans for collaborations and to facilitate the expedited reviews and clearances of proposed bilateral projects. Both the NIH and NSFC have allocated funds to support joint activities pursued under this program.

This Call for Proposals announces an opportunity for NIH intramural scientists to request funding to develop new collaborations or expand ongoing research efforts with Chinese scientists under the U.S.-China Program for Biomedical Research Cooperation.Proposals that include a short-term scientist exchange are acceptable. Based on the merit of the requests received and the availability of funds, the NIH may award up to \$500,000 per year from FY 2014-2016to intramural scientists for this effort, and the NSFC has pledged to provide complementary funding to support the Chinese collaborating investigators involved in the research collaborations. The maximum amount for each intramural award is \$50,000 per year for three years. NSFC has pledged to match the overall U.S. funding to support the Chinese collaborating investigators involved in the research collaboration, a parallel funding opportunity was released to the U.S. extramural community under the U.S.-China Program for Biomedical Research Cooperation (RFA-AI-12-021)

NCI, NIMH, NIAID, NINDS, and the Office of AIDS Research (OAR) have allocated funds for the U.S.-China Program on Biomedical Research Cooperation. Under this

program, the NIH will support *any of the following: 1*) *NIH intramural researcher* working in the area of HIV/AIDS and its co-morbidities; *2*) *NCI intramural researcher* working in the area of cancer research (unrelated to HIV/AIDS and its co-morbidities); 3)*NIMH intramural researcher* working in the area of mental health (unrelated to HIV/AIDS and its co-morbidities); 4) *NIHintramural researcher* working in the area of Parkinson's Disease and stroke(unrelated to HIV/AIDS and its co-morbidities); and *4*) *NIAID intramural researcher* working on allergy, immunology and infectious diseases (unrelated to HIV/AIDS and it co-morbidities)**who proposes a research collaboration with a Chinese collaborating investigator**.

To support the Chinese collaborating investigators for these projects, NSFC will provide complementary funds to scientists *who are current or former NSFC grantees*. Funding under this program can be used to support *either new or expanded research cooperation* between U.S. and Chinese scientists.

NIH intramural and Chinese collaborating investigators will work together to submit corresponding applications to NIH and NSFC.Applications from U.S. intramural collaborating investigators, in response to this funding announcement, will be submitted to a contact within the office of their IC's Scientific Director. Applications will be reviewed by an *ad hoc* panel of intramural researchers with appropriate scientific expertise. NSFC will publish a corresponding funding announcement (in Chinese) for Chinese collaborating investigators to apply for funding under the joint U.S.-China Program for Biomedical Research Cooperation (see <a href="http://www.nsfc.gov.cn/Portal0/InfoModule\_396/More.htm">http://www.nsfc.gov.cn/Portal0/InfoModule\_396/More.htm</a>). The U.S. and Chinese applications must both be determined eligible and responsive by NIH and NSFC to be considered for joint funding under the program.

Applications from Chinese collaborating investigators will be reviewed in parallel by NSFC using review criteria that are harmonized with the NIH review criteria. Chinese applicants will also be required to submit as part of their applications a copy of the NIH proposal provided by their U.S. collaborator. Therefore, it is expected that the Chinese collaborating investigator will contact the NIH intramural scientist and request a copy of the proposal being submitted in response to this announcement. The NIH will not consider for funding any request that has not met this sharing requirement. The English proposal will also be reviewed confidentially during the NSFC review process. Potential intramural applicants concerned about confidentiality or proprietary information should take this requirement into account before deciding what information to include in the proposal. Funding decisions will be made by NIH and NSFC in consultation with the JWG and with consideration of the research priorities of both countries.

Short-term scientific exchanges can be proposed as a component of the application. Justification for any short-term scientific exchanges should be provided, clearly outlining the need for such an exchange in the context of the research objectives proposed. The short-term scientist exchange proposal must be a component of the proposed research project, and total costs for the research and scientific exchange components should not exceed \$50,000 total cost per year. A stand alone short-term scientist exchange proposal without a research proposal will not be accepted.

The short-term-scientist exchange component cannot be used to support Chinese researchers who are already in an NIH intramural laboratory or who have been previously identified for support from other sources. The exchange may be from one

week to six months in duration. (Note: This program provides support only for the Chinese researcher; no support will be provided for family members, financial or documentary). Under this Call for Proposals, NIH intramural scientists are eligible for short-term visits/exchanges to Chinese co-investigator laboratories, which are limited to one month in duration.

# **RESEARCH OBJECTIVES:**

The intent of this initiative is to foster, stimulate,and/or expand collaborative basic, translational, and applied research between NIH intramural scientists and eligible Chinese researchers in the areas of: cancer, mental health, Parkinson's disease (PD), and stroke, allergy, immunology, and infectious diseases including HIV/AIDS and its comorbidities.

Researchoractivities not supported under this Call for Proposals includes:

- Clinical trials of drugs, biologics or diagnostics (see NIH definition of clinical trials in the <u>Application Guide SF424</u>) forNIHdefinitions of clinicalresearchvs. clinical trials, pleasesee: <u>http://grants.nih.gov/grants/glossary.htm#C</u>.
- Proposals that are <u>not</u> paired with an eligible NSFC Chinese investigator in China, who submitted a corresponding Chinese application to NSFC.
- Research involving Select Agents (see 42 CFR 73 for the Select Agent list; and 7 CFR 331 and 9 CFR 121 for the relevant animal and plant pathogens).

# Scope of the Research Supported under this Call for Proposals:

This Call for Proposals will support studies in the following areas of allergy, immunology, and infectious diseases including HIV/AIDS and its co-morbidities and co-infections, cancer, mental health, Parkinson's disease (PD), and stroke.

# NIAID - Immunology (non-HIV/AIDS):

Research may include host immune response and/or regulation of the inflammatory response to microbial and/or viral infection. Additionally, studies that elucidate the underlying mechanisms that result in immune memory and protection in response to vaccination are also encouraged. Topics of interest relevant to immunity to infection and/or vaccination include, but are not limited to:

- Activation of innate immune cells and signaling pathways;
- Positive and negative regulation of inflammation;
- Mechanisms by which the innate immune system directs subsequent adaptive immune responses;
- Generation and maintenance of effector and memory antigen-specific T and B lymphocytes;
- Regulation of antibody production and mechanisms of antibody-mediated protection;
- Definition of biomarkers of protective immune responses;

- Characterization of innate and adaptive mucosal immune responses;
- Mechanisms of immune-mediated pathogenesis triggered by responses to microbial infection;
- Effect of viral and microbial infections, and environmental pollutants on innate immunity and epithelial/mucosa functions and their contribution to the pathogenesis of asthma and allergic diseases.

### NIAID - Infectious Diseases (non-HIV/AIDS):

Research on infectious diseases (non-HIV/AIDS) should focus on malaria, tuberculosis, dengue fever, enterovirus 71, rabies, schistosomiasis, measles, hepatitis, or influenza and include one of the following areas:

- Antimicrobial resistance, including mechanisms of resistance;
- Resistance in disease vectors;
- Immune responses to infectious diseases or vaccines, including the role of immune responses in pathogenesis.

# NCI - Cancer:

In the area of cancer research, applications need to address cancer in the context of infectious agents and/or diseases.

Note: Applications that propose to study cancer only and do not have an infectious agent and/or disease component will be considered nonresponsive and will not be reviewed.

Research focused on the links between infection and cancer important in the U.S. and China, particularly:

- Epstein Barr Virus (EBV);
- Helicobacter pylori;
- Hepatitis B (HBV) and Hepatitis C (HCV);
- Human Papillomavirus (HPV) and possible co-factors such as Cytomegalovirus (CMV) and Herpes Simplex Virus (HSV);
- Kaposi-Associated Herpes Virus (KSHV or HHV-8).

Research on infection-related cancer areas include, but are not limited to:

- Creating cost-effective cancer vaccines that can be used in developed and developing countries (e.g., DNA-based vaccines or the use of recombinant over-expressed antigenic proteins);
- Creating cost-effective screening and early detection strategies for infection-related cancer that can be used in developed and developing countries;
- The role of inflammation in infection-related cancers;
- The role of tobacco use and other lifestyle-related risk factors in infectionrelated cancers;
- Genomic studies of infection-related cancers;
- Epigenetic changes in infection-related cancers;
- Host immune control and/or host and microbial genetics in infection-related cancers;
- The role of the microbiome in infection-related cancers.

### NIMH - Mental Health:

Research focused on systems and cellular neuroscience as they relate to mental disorders, including:

- Studies of non-human primate neurobiology;
- Research to increase the sophistication of data analyses, especially in neuroimaging studies;
- Development of novel tools and methodologies, including imaging tools and assays, that allow high throughput phenotyping in cell model systems;
- Improvements in stem cell techniques to study the molecular and cellular basis of mental disorders.

Research focused on risk and resilience for mental disorders within a developmental framework, including:

- Studies of the prodrome of major mental disorders (e.g. schizophrenia and bipolar disorder);
- Studies of the early risk factors for depression and anxiety;
- Identification of biomarkers with predictive values for diagnosis and treatment;
- Studies of autism, particularly those focused on genomics, early detection, and/or treatment development.

#### NINDS–Parkinson's Disease and Stroke:

The NINDS will support novel collaborative research projects in the areas of Parkinson's disease (PD) and stroke. Research topics include, but are not limited to:

- Comparative studies in animal models or human to distinguish genetic or epigenetic mechanisms, and the impact of environmental risk factors for disease or for specific disease subtypes (*e.g.*, early-onset PD, intracerebral hemorrhage, intracranial stenosis, small vessel disease or vascular cognitive impairment)
- Collaborative research that develops, characterizes, validates and utilizes large and naturally aged animal models, such as non-human primate and transgenic animal models of PD or stroke in the following areas:
  - o Biomarkers of disease mechanisms and progression
  - Therapeutic targets
  - Pathophysiological basis of diseases
- Collaborative neuroimaging studies for early diagnosis and progression of PD or cerebrovascular diseases and recovery after stroke
- Prospective studies on non-motor and cognitive changes in PD or cognitive impairment and dementia due to cerebrovascular disease

• Collaborations in database comparison and data sharing (*e.g.*, hospital-based and community-based studies of PD or stroke)

Note: US applicants who plan to conduct PD studies on US patients should be aware that:

All genetic studies are required to share data via dbGaP (<u>http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/gap</u>).

All laboratory-based PD studies on human specimen and clinical PD biomarker projects, including imaging studies, must be compliant with the PD Biomarkers Program (PDBP) requirements (<u>http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-NS-11-020.html</u>).

Specifically, some human biological samples collected under this program may be required to be deposited in the NINDS repository as directed by NINDS (<u>http://ccr.coriell.org/Sections/Collections/NINDS/?Ssld=10</u>).

In addition, all such projects must utilize the PDBP Data Management Resource (DMR) for sharing clinical, imaging and biological data. It is expected that the DMR will be initiated in 2012 and a plan for data sharing via the DMR must be included in the data sharing plan.

When planning, applicants should take into consideration the above policies, and also engage the approval process in China for international sharing of the biological samples and genetic data.

### HIV/AIDS:

HIV/AIDS and its 1) co-infections including, tuberculosis, and hepatitis C and hepatitis B; and 2) complications associated with long-term HIV disease and antiretroviral therapy, including AIDS-defining and non-AIDS defining malignancies, metabolic disorders, cardiovascular disease, conditions associated with aging, and neurologic and neurocognitive disorders.

Research toward a cure for HIV/AIDS including studies on: HIV reservoirs, latency, and persistence; screening and testing of novel compounds; developing and testing novel approaches combining virologic-, immunologic, and cellularbased therapies, as well as strategies to activate latent virus; and adherence to treatment regimens, as well as research at the individual, community, and population levels on developing and implementing a cure for HIV/AIDS.

Research studies on the epidemiologic impact of HIV on tuberculosis, pathogenic interactions between HIV disease and tuberculosis, including, but not limited to:

- Transmission patterns and rates of tuberculosis in HIV-infected and uninfected population;
- Molecular epidemiology of Mycobacterium tuberculosis in HIV-infected population;

- Genotypic and phenotypic characterization of drug resistant M. tuberculosis;
- Environmental, host, and microbiologic risk factors for M. tuberculosis drug resistance;
- Effect of tuberculosis on HIV clinical disease progression;
- Characteristics of pulmonary and non-pulmonary disease in HIV population and treatment outcome;
- Risk factors or biomarkers to predict treatment success, failure, relapse in HIV/TB co-infection;
- Innovations for integrated HIV and TB care and their impact on clinical outcome;
- Changes in tuberculosis disease progression and/or risk for activation of latent tuberculosis in the setting of antiretroviral therapy;
- Improved diagnosis of latent TB infection in HIV/TB co-infection and biomarkers for risk of activation;
- Risk factors or biomarkers of immune reconstitution inflammatory syndrome (IRIS) in HIV/TB co-infection.

Research on AIDS vaccine candidates, including but not limited to:identification of candidate novel immunogens, novel adjuvants, or initial characterization of high-risk populations for possible participation in future clinical trials of AIDS vaccines or combination prevention strategies.

Research involving human subjects (clinical research) is permitted under this Call for Proposals. For the NIH definition of clinical research versus clinical trials, please see: <u>http://funding.niaid.nih.gov/researchfunding/sci/human/pages/default.aspx</u>.

**Note:** applicants and collaborating partners are expected to adhere to NIH regulations for the conduct of research involving human subjects and vertebrate animals.

Applicants should clearly describe the specific aims of the project and the roles and responsibilities of the U.S. PD(s)/PI(s) and NFSC collaborative partners in accomplishing the proposed research. The description of the collaborative research, detailing the integration of the U.S. and Chinese collaborative efforts, should include communication plans, processes for making decisions on scientific direction, and procedures for resolving conflicts. Contingency plans addressing solutions to setbacks and delays should also be included. In addition, applicants should include a description of available resources, naming which collaborative partner is contributing which resources, and a description of how resources will be shared (e.g., individual contributions of specific reagents, patient samples, compounds, and access to populations for epidemiologic studies). If biospecimens will be imported from China to the U.S., applicants should specify the type of biospecimens and whether an application has been filed for Chinese government approval to export these materials. Also specify how the work can be completed if this approval is not granted.

### In all research areas:

• Short-term scientific exchanges (of U.S. intramural scientists to China or Chinese scientists to NIH) must be a component of the proposed research project.

# Scope of research or activities NOT supported under this Call for Proposals:

- Any clinical trials including clinical trials of drugs, biologics, or diagnostics (see NIH definition of clinical trials in the <u>Application Guide SF424</u>). For NIH definitions of clinical research vs. clinical trials, please see <u>http://grants.nih.gov/grants/glossary.htm#C</u>
- Research involving Select Agents (see 42 CFR 73 for the Select Agent list; and 7 CFR 331 and 9 CFR 121 for the relevant animal and plant pathogens).
- Applications received that are not paired with a corresponding NSFC application from a Chinese collaborating investigator.

# BUDGET:

The NIH may award up to \$500,000 per year for three years to intramural scientists for this effort. The maximum amount for each intramural award is \$50,000; however, smaller requests are strongly encouraged. NSFC will provide complementary funds for the Chinese collaborating investigators of these projects. Five percent of the NSFC total award amounts can be used for indirect costs by Chinese institutions.

# ELIGIBILITY:

Funding under this program can be used to support *either new or expanded research cooperation* with Chinese scientists.Funding under this program will support *collaborative research projects only and cannot be used to support research infrastructure (except for small equipment purchases)*. All NIH intramural Principal Investigators (i.e., tenured Senior Investigator, Tenure-track Investigator, Senior Scientist, Senior Clinician, or Assistant Clinical Investigator) are eligible to submit a research proposal in the area of HIV/AIDS and its co-morbidities, and Parkinson's Disease and Stroke. Only NCI intramural investigators are eligible to submit in the area of cancer (unrelated to HIV/AIDS and its co-morbidities), only NIMH intramural investigators are eligible to submit in the area of mental health (unrelated to HIV/AIDS and its co-morbidities) and only NIAID intramural investigators are eligible to submit in research areas of allergy, immunology and infectious diseases (unrelated to HIV/AIDS and its co-morbidities). *Each intramural scientist may only submit one proposal.* 

#### In order for the application to be reviewed under this joint program, the U.S. and Chinese applications have to be considered eligible by both NIH and NSFC. The Chinese partner has to carefully follow all of NSFC's application procedures to be considered eligible.

For a complete description of eligibility criteria for Chinese applicants, please refer to the corresponding NSFC funding announcement published on its website: <a href="http://www.nsfc.gov.cn/Portal0/InfoModule\_396/31674.htm">http://www.nsfc.gov.cn/Portal0/InfoModule\_396/31674.htm</a>(only in Chinese). Applications are only responsive to this announcement if the Chinese co-investigator submits a corresponding proposal to NSFC. Short-term scientific exchanges of NIH intramural investigators to China for up to one month can be supported if they are a component of the proposed research project. The host laboratory in China will provide laboratory costs during the exchange; however NIH intramural scientists cannot receive salary or per diem from the Chinese government.

Alternatively, this program can support a Chinese researcher to visit the NIH for a period of one week to six months who: 1) is proficient in spoken and written English; 2) completed at least one year of postdoctoral research experience; and 3) is not already at NIH. No support will be provided for dependents under this program. Travel expenses and salary support must be provided by the home institution; however, NIH will support health insurance (that does not cover pre-existing conditions) for the visiting Chinese researcher only for the duration of the visit.

# SUBMISSION OF LETTERS OF INTEREST:

Intramural investigators *are required to* submit a Letter of Interest (LOI) to be considered for this funding opportunity. LOIs should be no longer than two pages and should include the following information:

- Name of U.S. Principal Investigator and NIH Institute, name and address of Chinese collaborating investigator and Chinese institution;
- Descriptive title of proposed research; and
- Brief summary of the intended project, with the roles of each collaborating investigator clearly indicated.

LOIs from all intramural investigators other than NIMH intramural investigators who are not working in the area of HIV/AIDS and its co-morbidities are to be submitted online at <u>https://proposalcentral.altum.com</u>. LOIs may be submitted starting in July 2012, but must be received by no later than 5:00 PM Eastern Time on August 18, 2012.

NIMH intramural investigators who are not working in the area of HIV/AIDS and its comorbidities should submit LOIs via e-mail to <u>nimhreferral@mail.nih.gov</u>.

### SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS:

The English project title should be identical to the English project title submitted by the Chinese co-investigator to NSFC. Please note that Chinese collaborating investigators will be required to submit the contents of the entire NIH proposal to NSFC (in addition to the NSFC application) for review. It is expected that the Chinese collaborator will contact the NIH intramural scientist and request copies of their proposal for submission.

Proposals from all intramural investigators other than NIMH intramural investigators who are not working in the area of HIV/AIDS and its co-morbidities are to be submitted online at <a href="https://proposalcentral.altum.com">https://proposalcentral.altum.com</a>. Proposals must be submitted no later than 5:00 PM Eastern Time on September 18, 2012. Late and/or incomplete submissions will not be considered.

NIMH intramural investigators who are not working in the area of HIV/AIDS and its comorbidities should submit proposals via e-mail to <u>nimhreferral@mail.nih.gov</u>.

#### Proposals submitted should include a letter or e-mail affirming the endorsement/approval of the IC Scientific Director (SD) or their Designee. Submissions without such endorsement/approval will not be considered.

The Proposal should be developed in collaboration with the Chinese collaborating investigator and include thefollowing:

- Cover Letter (face page):
  - Principal Investigator (PI) name, NIH IC, and lab (Capitalize the family name; for example: Jane DOE);
  - Title of the U.S.-China collaboration project;
  - Chinese Principal Investigator name (Capitalize the family name, and then provide the other given names; for example: DOE Jane)
  - Chinese Principal Investigator's institution
  - Amount requested (for U.S. portion);
  - Phone numbers, e-mail addresses, and delivery addresses for the PI;
- Abstract of the project that describes the research, need, and significance of the proposed study.
- Research Strategy (12-page limit)

Applicants should clearly describe the specific aims of the project and the organizational structures, roles and responsibilities of the U.S. PD(s)/PI(s) and NFSC collaborative partners in accomplishing the proposed research. The description of the collaborative research, detailing the integration of the U.S. and Chinese collaborator efforts, should include communication plans, processes for making decisions on scientific direction, and procedures for resolving conflicts. Contingency plans addressing solutions to setbacks and delays should also be included. In addition, applicants should include a description of available resources, naming which collaborative partner is contributing which resources, and a description of how resources will be shared (e.g., individual contributions of specific reagents, patient samples, compounds, and access to populations for epidemiologic studies). If biospecimens will be imported from China to the U.S. applicants should specify the type of biospecimens and whether an application has been filed for Chinese government approval to export these materials. Also specify how the work can be completed if this approval is not granted.

- Budget for the project and justification. The budget must include details for equipment, supplies and services, in addition to any other budget items such as scientific exchanges; but no costs for personnel salaries are allowed. The equipment purchase must not exceed \$25,000 over the three-year award. Each application should include two budgets: one requesting NIH funding (for the U.S. side expenses) and one budget requesting NSFC funding (for the Chinese side expenses in Chinese currency).
- Letter of Support.Applicants should include a Letter of Support co-written and cosigned by the NIH intramural PD/PI, the Chinese collaborating investigator and

the Chinese institution authorizing institutional official confirming the new or existing collaboration. The letter should also confirm that the NIH intramural scientist will provide a copy of the NIH submitted application to the NSFC through their Chinese collaborating partner.

- List of Key Scientific Personnel and other Significant Contributors
- **Biographical Sketch** for the Principal Investigator (PI) and Chinese Co-PI. (4page limit per person)
- Human Subjects/ Vertebrate Animal documentation (if applicable).
  - Include a current Human Subjects/IRB or Vertebrate Animals/IACUC approval letter, if available. Otherwise, this will be required at the time of funding. All appropriate IRB and IACUC approvals must be in place prior to an award being made.
  - When appropriate, details should be provided on the protection of human subjects and inclusion of women, children, and minorities.
  - The Chinese collaborating site is also required to comply with human and animal assurances and certifications. If human subjects or Vertebrate Animal research will be conducted in China, provide the Federal Wide Assurance (FWA) number for the Chinese IRB and a brief (0.5-page) plan for obtaining IRB approval in China.
- Letter or e-mail of approval from the SD (mentioned above)

### Proposals incorporating any short-term scientist exchanges also must include:

- A letter of application that includes a brief description of the visit including a timeline, specific goals, how the visit relates to the proposed research project and how it will promote or enhance collaborations between the NIH intramural laboratory and the Chinese counterpart (one page limit).
- A description of the collaborative research project to be undertaken in the sponsor's laboratory, specifying what is to be accomplished and indicating tentative dates for the visit (three page limit).
- A letter of invitation from the chief of the hosting laboratory.
- A short curriculum vitae, including full contact information, identification of three scientists willing to serve as references, and no more than five publications.
- When the exchange is for Chinese investigator to come to an NIH intramural laboratory, the visit may be from one week to six months in duration.
  - The NIH will provide Chinese researchers accepted into this program with the necessary resources to cover per diem and laboratory supplies and reagents while at the NIH laboratory.
    - NSFC will pay for travel for all Chinese researchers.
    - Salary support would be provided by the Chinese participant's home institution.
    - The NIH will support health insurance during the short- term visit. Coverage is for the awardees only and does not cover pre-existing conditions.
    - The Chinese investigator will receive a letter from NIH with which to apply for a visa at the U.S. Embassy or Consulate in China.

- Chinese investigators must include a letter of assurance by the candidate that he/she will return to China at the end of the exchange.
- The candidates must have a minimum of one-year postdoctoral experience in related research.
- Candidates also must be proficient in spoken and written English.
- NIH intramural scientists also can participate in the short-term scientist exchange component; however, this exchange may not exceed one month.
  - The NIH scientist cannot receive salary or per diem from the Chinese government.
  - The Chinese laboratory would provide the resources to cover supplies and reagents for the NIH intramural investigator while in the Chinese laboratory.

# **REVIEW:**

Review will be managed by the appropriate IC's SD office and applications will be reviewed by *ad hoc* experts with the appropriate expertise in cancer, mental health, Parkinson's Disease and Stroke, allergy/immunology, or infectious diseases including HIV/AIDS and its co-morbidities.

Reviewers also will examine the appropriateness of the budget in consideration of the study proposed and the research environment for the scientific projects.

Applications will be evaluated on the following criteria:

*Significance*.Does the project address an important problem or a critical barrier to progress in the field? If the aims of the project are achieved, how will scientific knowledge, technical capability, and/or clinical practice be improved? How will successful completion of the aims change the concepts, methods, technologies, treatments, services, or preventative interventions that drive this field? Is the proposed project likely to stimulate collaborative basic, translational, or applied research between U.S.-based researchers and Chinese researchers?

**Investigator(s).** Are the PD(s)/PI(s), collaborators, and other researchers well suited to the project? If Early Stage Investigators or New Investigators, or in the early stages of independent careers, do they have appropriate experience and training? If established, have they demonstrated an ongoing record of accomplishments that have advanced their field(s)? If the project is collaborative or multi-PD/PI, do the investigators have complementary and integrated expertise; are their leadership approach, governance and organizational structure appropriate for the project?

*Innovation.* Does the application challenge and seek to shift current research or clinical practice paradigms by utilizing novel theoretical concepts, approaches or methodologies, instrumentation, or interventions? Are the concepts, approaches or methodologies, instrumentation, or interventions novel to one field of research or novel in a broad sense? Is a refinement, improvement, or new application of theoretical concepts, approaches or methodologies, instrumentation, or interventions, or new application of theoretical concepts, approaches or methodologies, instrumentation, or interventions, or new application of theoretical concepts, approaches or methodologies, instrumentation, or interventions proposed?

**Approach.** Are the overall strategy, methodology, and analyses well-reasoned and appropriate to accomplish the specific aims of the project? Are potential problems,

alternative strategies, and benchmarks for success presented? If the project is in the early stages of development, will the strategy establish feasibility and will particularly risky aspects be managed?

If the project involves clinical research, are the plans for 1) protection of human subjects from research risks, and 2) inclusion of minorities and members of both sexes/genders, as well as the inclusion of children, justified in terms of the scientific goals and research strategy proposed? Does the application clearly state which partner of the collaboration will be responsible for accomplishment of each proposed specific aim? Does the application provide appropriate plans for the collaborative research, demonstrating the integration of the U.S. and Chinese collaborator efforts, including communication plans, process for making decision on scientific direction, and procedures for resolving conflicts? Does the application provide appropriate contingency plans and/or solutions for addressing setbacks and delay?

**Environment.** Will the scientific environment in which the work will be done contribute to the probability of success? Are the institutional support, equipment and other physical resources available to the investigators adequate for the project proposed? Will the project benefit from unique features of the scientific environment, subject populations, or collaborative arrangements?

### INQUIRIES:

For applications from NCI/CCR PIs: (in scientific areas other than HIV/AIDS and its co-morbidities) Janelle Cortner cornterj@mail.nih.gov

For applications from NCI/DCEG PIs (in scientific areas other than HIV/AIDS and its co-morbidities): Marianne Henderson NCI/DCEG hendersm@mail.nih.gov

For applications from NIAID PIs (in scientific areas other than HIV/AIDS and its comorbidities): Mark Pineda <u>mpineda@niaid.nih.gov</u>

For applications from NIMH PIs (in scientific areas other than HIV/AIDS and its comorbidities): nimhreferral@mail.nih.gov

For applications from all NIH PIs working in the area of HIV/AIDS and its comorbidities Bob Eisinger and Joan Romaine <u>OAR-Initiatives@mail.nih.gov</u>

For applications from all NIH PIs working in the area of Parkinson's Disease and stroke (in scientific areas other than HIV/AIDS and its co-morbidities) Peggy Rollins

Rollinsp@ninds.nih.gov