



CHICAGO
BIOMEDICAL
CONSORTIUM

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT CHICAGO
NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY

The CBC gratefully acknowledges support from the Searle Funds at The Chicago Community Trust.

CHICAGO BIOMEDICAL CONSORTIUM

presents

Catalyst and Accelerator Award Information Session

January 14, 2020

University of Illinois at Chicago

The Searle Funds
at The Chicago Community Trust





Meeting Agenda

- Welcome and introductions
 - CBC Scientific Director
 - Panelists
 - CBC Entrepreneurial Fellows
 - CBC staff overseeing specific award programs
- **CBC Programs**
 - **Catalyst Award**
 - **Accelerator Award**
 - **CBC Accelerator Network (CBCAN)**
 - **Entrepreneurial Fellows Award**
- Panel Discussion
- Q & A



CBC Mission

The Chicago Biomedical Consortium (CBC) has been established in **2006** with a grant from the **Searle Funds at The Chicago Community Trust**.

The mission of the Chicago Biomedical Consortium is to stimulate collaboration among scientists at Northwestern University, The University of Chicago, the University of Illinois at Chicago and others to accelerate discovery that will transform biomedical research and improve the health of humankind. The CBC will:

- Stimulate research and education that bridge institutional boundaries,
- Enable collaborative and interdisciplinary research that is beyond the range of a single institution,
- Mentor and develop a strong cadre of biomedical leaders, researchers, and entrepreneurs in Chicago,
- Enhance and promote the development of the biomedical ecosystem in Chicago,
- Facilitate development of therapeutics that will, over the long term, improve the health of citizens of Chicago and beyond.



Panelists, Moderators, CBC Representatives

PANELISTS:

[CBC Catalyst Awardees,](#)
[Catalyst Review Board \(CRB\) Members](#)

David Eddington, PhD

Professor, Department of Bioengineering, UIC

Michael Caffrey, PhD

Associate Professor, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics, UIC

[CBC Accelerator Awardees](#)

Arnon Lavie, PhD

Professor, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics, UIC

Steve Ackerman, PhD

Professor, Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics, UIC

[Technology Transfer Representatives](#)

Hyunjin Kim, PhD

Associate Technology Manager
Office of Technology Management (OTM), UIC

Michael Moore, PhD

Director of Licensing & Life Sciences
Innovation and New Ventures Office (INVO), Northwestern

HOST:

[CBC Scientific Director for UIC](#)

Luisa DiPietro, DDS, PhD

Director, Center for Wound Healing and Tissue Regeneration
Professor of Periodontics
UIC College of Dentistry

MODERATORS:

[CBC-NU Entrepreneurial Fellows](#)

Carissa Heath, PhD

Eric Schiffhauer, PhD

CBC STAFF OVERSEEING PROGRAMS:

[CBC Catalyst Award](#)

Karen Snapp, DDS, PhD

Senior Associate Director

[CBC Accelerator Award](#)

Nancy Tyrrell

Associate Director for Translational Activities



Catalyst Award Program

- **LEVEL OF FUNDING:** Up to **\$250,000** for up to 2 years
- **GOALS:**
 - **Project:** Basic fundamental biological/biomedical question; high-risk/high-reward, cutting-edge, innovative and transformative; preliminary data not required.
 - **Team:** New inter-institutional collaborations; collaborations involving junior and senior faculty members are encouraged and given special consideration.
 - **Scope:** One-time incentive awards; not intended to support incremental progress or NIH-ready projects.
- **ELIGIBILITY:**
 - **Applicants:** tenured or tenure-track faculty with research programs at the CBC universities.
 - **Collaboration:** must be a new collaboration involving co-PIs from at least two of the CBC universities, team members cannot have existing joint publications and cannot be funded for closely related research activities.
 - **Limits to apply:** only one application / round / PI and investigators with Catalyst funding are not eligible to re-apply during the term of their reward.



Catalyst Award Program Application Process

- Applications are invited twice a year
- Applications must be submitted as a PDF online *via* the CBC website portal
- Upcoming application submission rounds:

Application Round	Submission Deadline (5PM)	Expected Decision
Round 29 (Spring 2020)	February 21, 2020	June 1, 2020
Round 30 (Fall 2020)	September 11, 2020	December 1, 2020

RFA: www.chicagobiomedicalconsortium.org/awards/catalyst_award/



Catalyst Award Program Application Process (*cont.*)

PROPOSAL:

- **Body of the research proposal: limit to 3 pages** and include the following:
 - one-paragraph lay-language summary
 - one paragraph describing the high-risk / high-reward and groundbreaking aspect
 - the proposal statement with the following headings:
 - description of the proposed research,
 - nature of the inter-institutional collaboration,
 - criteria for measuring the success of the project,
 - long-term funding plan for continuation beyond the Catalyst Award.
- **Relevant References**
- **Two-page Budget from each PI**
- **Up-to-date NIH Biosketch**
- **Letters of Support** (*if relevant*)
 - The CBC cannot fund researchers from non-CBC institutions but will accept their letters of support, and CBC funds can be used to pay for services provided by core facilities.



Catalyst Review Process

Catalyst awards are made on the **basis of scientific merit** and are evaluated by the **Catalyst Review Board (CRB)** composed of equal numbers of scientists from consortium institutions.

- **Administrative Review:** Applications not conforming to the RFA specifications are eliminated.
- **COI Evaluation and Triage Assignments:** CRB members identify applications they recuse themselves from due to COIs; *ad hoc* reviewers are recruited if specific expertise is needed; triage assignments are made.
- **Triage Review:** Each application is reviewed by 3 reviewers. Confidential scores (NIH system of 1-10) and comments are electronically submitted. Decisions are made regarding which applications will move forward.
- **CRB Review, In-Person Meeting:** Each application that passed triage is reviewed by 3 reviewers, one primary and two secondary. Confidential scores (NIH system of 1-10) and comments are electronically submitted. The CRB meeting protocol is similar to NIH study section and reviewers plus the chairperson make decisions as to which applications are eligible for funding.



Accelerator Award Program

- The Accelerator Award program supports **translational research** and provides university researchers with early commercial guidance.
- Focused on the **development of a therapeutic or an associated biomarker or diagnostic**.
- No requirement for cross-institutional collaboration.
- **\$100,000** for one year.
- May be invited to apply for **\$150,000 for one additional year**.



Accelerator Award Details and Eligibility

- Applicants must be tenured or tenure-track faculty with research programs at NU, UChicago, and/or UIC.
- Faculty with full time appointments on the clinical track are also eligible to apply.
- Applicants must have their own designated laboratory space.
- Applicants may have created a company, but the CBC encourages applications prior to or without company formation.



Accelerator Award Details and Eligibility (*cont.*)

- Proposals should show both innovation and scientific merit.
- Therapeutic or associated diagnostic or biomarker, with a compelling hypothesis and focus on gathering data that advances the hypothesis and discharges key translational risks.
- Projects cannot be under review at other funding agencies to support the same/closely related aims/milestones.
- A PI may participate in only one application per round.



Accelerator Award Application Process

- Submit online Letter of Intent (LOI).
- LOIs selected to advance to **live presentation**.
- Finalists present their proposals at **CBCAN** event:
 - 8-minute presentation.
 - 10 minutes of Q & A.
 - Assistance with the design and rehearsal of the slide presentation.
 - Written comments by audience for strengthening the proposal.
- Submit online Full Proposal (RFP).

LOI Submission Deadline	CBCAN Presentations	Full Proposal Submission Deadline	Anticipated Funding Decision	Anticipated Start Date
March 6	May 7 May 21	June 26	August 1	October 1



Accelerator Award Application Process (*cont.*)

- Submit online full proposal application (RFP).
 - Address feedback from CBCAN audience.
 - Expand on science and data.

- Accelerator Review Board (ARB).
 - Composed of 28 members.
 - *Ad hoc* reviewers.

- ARB members submit scores, comments and meet to discuss.
 - Each proposal is scored by multiple reviewers, **2 faculty science**, **1 commercialization**, **1 technology transfer**, **1 non-scoring core** facility.

- CBC Scientific Directors finalize funding decisions.



CBCAN: CBC Accelerator Network

- **The CBC Accelerator Network (CBCAN)** program has created a community to advance discoveries that may have commercial potential.
- CBCAN is central to the **Accelerator Award** program.
- Accelerator Award finalists present to a live audience and receive helpful feedback to strengthen their programs.
- **Fifteen CBCAN events** have been held to date, including AA presentations and educational discussions.





Entrepreneurial Fellows Objectives and Activities

1. Support faculty who have innovative drug-discovery ideas with the potential to generate new **biotech startup companies**.

Current Example: Projects at NU that are part of the VC-funded **Lakeside Discovery** collaboration:

- Strategic Planning
- Discovery Project Management
- Industrial Science Operations
- Intellectual Property



Entrepreneurial Fellows Objectives and Activities

2. Work with additional CBC faculty interested in pursuing **novel drug discovery** ideas.

3. Cultivate a **drug discovery culture**.

Current Examples:

- Meet faculty to share drug discovery knowledge gained through experience with on-going IND oriented projects.
- Participate actively in CBC events, symposia and workshops.
- Engage with greater Chicago biomedical community.

The CBC is in the process of forming an EF Advisory Board and would like to expand the EF program later in 2020.



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Thank You for Attending

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