**Epigenetics Seed Grants:**

With the generous support of Dean George Daley, the HMS Initiative in Epigenetics and Gene Dynamics is pleased to accept applications for seed grants to support collaborative research at HMS in the fields of epigenetics, chromatin structure or gene regulation. We welcome proposals focusing on basic scientific questions as well as those with clinical or therapeutic applications. Two types of grants are available at this time:

- **Pilot:** One-year grants of $30,000
- **Development:** Two-year grants of $150,000/year

Both types of grant are aimed to facilitate collaborative projects between two or more HMS-affiliated labs. Collaborations between labs in different departments or different locations is encouraged. Pilot grants will support innovative research ideas, with no requirement for preliminary data. Development grants will provide funds for projects with demonstrated feasibility, with a goal of supporting the generation of preliminary data for NIH or similar grant applications. Three of each type of grant will be awarded this cycle. Details on applications and deadlines are below.

**Review Process:**

**Step 1)** RFA to be announced at Epigenetics Symposium, October 18, 2018

**Step 2)** Letters of Intent for both types of grant are due November 21, 2018

a) Cover page with: Title of Proposal, names of PI and Co-PI(s), email addresses, institutions, ranks, department affiliations. Please clearly indicate which type of grant you are applying for, Pilot or Development. Also, note if your proposed work will require IRB or IACUC approval, and if so, if you already have obtained approval.

b) Proposal (uploaded as a .PDF, Arial and font size of 11 point only. The 1.5-page letter should be single-spaced, with 0.7-inch margins.)
   - **Specific Aims (1 page)**
     Briefly describe the background and significance of the proposed research, list the specific aims of the project and briefly describe each. Format and content should be similar to Specific Aims page in NIH grants.
   - **Describe collaboration and follow-on plans (½ page)**
     Briefly describe the collaboration you are proposing, as well as how the proposed project will lead to follow-on studies that might be supported in the future via external funding opportunities.

c) References: Please list references cited on a separate page and keep the length of the reference list to a maximum of one page.

**Step 3)** Review panel for the LOIs meets in early January.

Decisions on Pilot grants will be made at this time.

For Development grants, full applications will be requested shortly thereafter from a subset of applicants.

**Step 4)** Full applications are due in mid-February.

These include:
a) Narrative Budget Justification. (Each PI and Co-PI is required to submit separate budget and budget justification information, making clear how the grant money would be split between collaborators.)

b) PHS 398 Biographical Sketches for the PI, Co-PIs and significant collaborators. An eRA Commons ID is requested for all Co-PIs.

c) Scientific Proposal (submitted as .PDF) is limited to 4 pages not including references. Use Arial and a font size of 11 point only. The full application (covering items 1-4 below) should be single-spaced, with 0.7 inch margins. All figures and tables must be included in the body of the application and count towards page limits. References are limited to 1 additional page. Appendix material will not be accepted.

1. Project Title and Specific Aims
   - Briefly describe the context and impact of the proposed research.
   - List the specific aims of the project and briefly describe each.

2. Background and Significance
   - Summarize why the project is innovative, why it will have a potentially major impact, the limitation of current knowledge, and how work will address this problem.

3. Experimental Approach
   - Provide detailed information about the work to be carried out in each specific aim
   - Explain the nature of the collaboration

4. Long-Range Objectives
   - Describe how the proposed project will lead to follow-on projects that could be supported in the future via external funding opportunities

Step 5) Full applications are reviewed in Mid-March and funding decisions announced by the end of March.