BioCARE Infrastructure Call 2017

BioCARE, the strategic research area for cancer at Lund University (LU), hereby announces a call to make infrastructures relevant to cancer research more accessible.

The total budget for the call allows funding for up to two infrastructures to allow hiring of one person dedicated to technical support each, during the period 2018-2019. The grant can be used for salary support to technical personnel (research engineer, biomedical scientist (“BMA”)) that will provide know-how, maintenance and assistance to advanced technical platforms with relevance for cancer research. The infrastructure and the expertise of the technical support person should be made readily available (through an open booking system) to the full cancer research community at LU and any user fees must be motivated.

Purpose
The strategic aims of this call are to:
(1) Improve access to existing infrastructures at LU to cancer researchers
(2) Fuel new collaborations between research groups at LU
(3) Support the establishment of state-of-the-art technical platforms at LU

Important dates
15 September – Call opens
31 October – Deadline to submit application
30 November – Review finished
15 December – Decisions announced

Project period (up to 24 months): January 1st 2018 up to December 31st 2019

Budget: Approx. 3,600,000 SEK (approx. max level 1,800,000 SEK per infrastructure depending on actual salary level and time period; max 2 infrastructures at 2 x 100% salary support during 24 months)

Eligibility criteria
• Only one application per main applicant/infrastructure is allowed
• Both pre-clinical and clinical infrastructures are eligible to apply
• Technical personnel may be pre-existing or hired upon successful application

Evaluation
Evaluation among eligible applicants will be done by reviewers based on
(1) Merits of the applicant: Focus will be on the experience in running infrastructure. Grading 7-1
(2) Utility for cancer research: Infrastructures will be assessed on the usefulness of the technical platform for cancer research and the impact of making it more accessible. Grading 7-1
(2) The project plan: projects with an excellent plan, including well defined endpoints to measure the success rate for increasing usage / users, are prioritized. Grading 7-1

Ranking and Decision Process
The reviewers will rank the project applications individually as a complement to the grading as the last step. The reviewer ranks all evaluated projects from 1-N, with the best application as 1 and N = the total number of reviewed applications. The ranking should be based equally on the evaluation criteria (1) – (3) listed above.

The final decision is made by the BioCARE board based on the overall recommendation by the reviewers.

Follow-up
An interim report will be requested 6 months after project start, based on provided template. A project report, including both project and economic results will be requested at the end of the project based on provided templates.
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Application format
The application should contain the following documents, all with the name of the main applicant in the header of each page.

(1) A single cover page with general information as follows:
   a. Infrastructure name and localisation
   b. Name of the main applicant, current position and affiliation
   c. Name of the co-applicant(s), current position (s) and affiliation (s)
   d. Short description of the infrastructure (max ½ page)

(2) Project plan with the following headings (max 3 pages; 12 pt):
   a. Background: Describe the infrastructure(s), current usage (hours), users (internal BioCARE/external BioCARE/industry)
   b. Utility to cancer research: Describe the proposed need in cancer research that the infrastructure addresses
   c. Describe how you want to increase the usage or users
   d. Effects: Endpoints used to measure the success rate of increased users/usage
   e. Timelines

(3) Curriculum vitae of main applicant, co-applicant(s) (max 2 pages each; 12 pt – important to add experience, awards, courses related to running infrastructures

(4) Budget (max 1 page, 12 pt) including indirect costs with specification of personnel costs, running costs, course fees costs etc.

Submission
Submit your proposal as a single pdf document ordered as above to pia.berntsson@med.lu.se. Deadline is October 31st.

For more information or questions, please contact Pia Berntsson pia.berntsson@med.lu.se or Kristian Pietras kristian.pietras@med.lu.se