



**Call for Proposals**  
**Joint ISMMS-RPI Oncology Joint Projects**  
*ISMMS-RPI Academic Affiliation*



The ISMMS-RPI Steering Committee hereby requests proposals for collaborative projects in the area of oncology. This RFP builds on themes (listed below) developed during the recent symposium "*New Connections in Cancer Research: Bridging Basic Science, Clinical Science, Engineering and New Technologies*". Other topics related to cancer may also be proposed.

**Imaging, mechanical and biophysical approaches**

- Effects of mechanical and physical forces on tumor growth and metastasis
- Biochemical and biophysical makeup of the tumor microenvironment: implications for cancer progression and therapy
- Development of analytic tools to monitor cell populations and individual cells *in vitro* and *in vivo*
- Development or refinement of advanced imaging methods for cancer detection and monitoring

**Systematic identification of personalized cancer therapies**

- Cost-effective target/drug discovery platforms
- Development/implementation of personalized immunotherapeutic approaches
- Optimization of individualized chemotherapy regimen (combination, order, dose, schedule,...)
- Strategies/tools for clinical testing of experimental personalized therapies
- Strategies for managing and reducing treatment side effects".

**Systematic identification of cancer biomarkers**

- Prediction of tumor progression (e.g., survival rather than objective response)
- Improved prediction of immunotherapy/drug response

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**Proposals should be submitted with the expectation that data generated will lead to submission(s) for extramural funding from the NIH and/or other external funding sources.** If possible, the intended extramural grant program should be specified.

Applications should include at least *one investigator each from ISMMS and RPI*. All investigators with full-time academic appointments within the Mount Sinai Health System and at Rensselaer are invited to apply. Applications from participants of the recent Cancer symposium at Mount Sinai are particularly encouraged to form teams that can respond to this RFP.

The ISMMS-RPI Steering Committee will review the seed grant proposals and funding will commence in January 2017.

**Funding up to a total of \$100,000 in direct costs is available for one year. An extramural grant application (RO1 or larger) based upon this project should be submitted no later than February 2018.**



## Submission and Proposal Format

Applications are due **December 15, 2016** (COB). Submissions should be made to:

**Louise Lammers, Ph.D.**

Associate Director Experimental Therapeutics Institute (ETI)

Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai

[louise.lammers@mssm.edu](mailto:louise.lammers@mssm.edu)

The proposal format is as follows:

Proposal submissions (up to 3 pages in length plus cover page, font consistent with Arial 11 or Times New Roman 12, 1" margins)

- **Cover Page** (*Cover page should be sent as a single PDF file in the following format*):
  - Proposal title and PI and co-PI names and affiliations;
  - Abstract of one paragraph (150 words maximum) summarizing the goals and rationale for the oncology seed project;
  - Objectives/specific aims of the project (up to 1/2 page).
- **Research Plan** – In three pages or less, describe: (*COMBINE THESE SECTIONS INTO ONE PDF FILE*)
  - The significance of the proposed research with respect to oncology research with a particular emphasis on overcoming basic scientific, clinical, and/or technological challenges;
  - Details of proposed work;
  - Anticipated outcomes of the project with a statement about specific federal programs related to the proposed work;
  - Why current funding or other sources cannot be used to support the project and how a multidisciplinary and inter-institutional team is critical for success.
- **Added Information** (not counted against the page limitation):
  - References (complete citations);
  - Budget and budget justification;
  - NIH-style biosketches for the PI and co-PIs. In place of the funding information, please provide a typical NIH "Other Support" document complete with percent effort and annual direct costs;

Please contact Louise Lammers ([louise.lammers@mssm.edu](mailto:louise.lammers@mssm.edu)) or Jack Huang ([huangj7@rpi.edu](mailto:huangj7@rpi.edu)) with any questions