



April 2, 2018

Room 109, MC-17  
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Jupiter, FL 33431  
Tel: 561-799-8100

**BRAIN INSTITUTE**  
Florida Atlantic University

The **FAU Brain Institute** is pleased to announce the **Neuroscience Pilot Award (NPA) Program**, soliciting proposals from **Institute Members** in support of research that can demonstrably enhance faculty research capability and productivity, with a long-term goal of stimulating growth of FAU extramural neuroscience funding. Applications are encouraged that, within a 1 yr period, will 1) generate critical preliminary data needed to demonstrate the suitability of a research program for extended funding, 2) establish the promise of new research initiatives, and/or 3) document the ability of a new research team to collaborate in generating research that can be expanded in a planned grant proposal. **Faculty (research or tenure track) interested in becoming Members** to take advantage of this and other opportunities through the Brain Institute should send a C.V. and letter of interest noting their neuroscience research activities to Dr. Nicole Baganz (nbaganz@fau.edu).

**NPA applications are due by 5:00 PM on Friday May 4, 2018.** The application packet will consist of the following, using a format of 11 pt font, single-spaced text and 0.5 " margins.

- A) Cover Letter, co-signed by the Project PI and the applicant's chair and/or dean/director, attesting to the availability of adequate space/equipment needed to complete the project. For Research-Track faculty, the letter should also be co-signed by the laboratory supervisor. Applicants should note in their letter that existing seed or discretionary funds adequate to complete the project are not available at the time of submission.
- B) List of all participating research team members with department affiliations
- C) A Facilities document identifying where the work will be conducted and essential resources
- D) Specific Aims (1/2 page max)
- E) Background and Significance (1 page max):
- F) Research Approach and Experimental Design (2 pages max, excluding Bibliography). A short statement related to the planned use of acquired data for presentation at a scientific meeting, publication or grant submission should be included in this section.
- G) NIH or NSF style Biosketch for all Senior Personnel including current and pending grant support (5 page maximum/Biosketch)
- H) Itemized, tabular budget of anticipated use of proposed resources.

Although the number and value of awards made under this program will depend on the quality and needs of submissions received, at least three awards of up to ~\$20,000 are anticipated. Multi-investigator proposals are encouraged but not essential. Funding may provide support for research supplies, small equipment (less than \$5,000), and the salary of research team members, including students and staff, but excluding salary for any tenured or tenure-track faculty. Up to \$2,000 can be utilized for scientific meeting travel.

**Awards will be announced in time for projects to initiate on or after May 28, 2018.** Review of NPA applications will be coordinated by the Brain Institute through a faculty awards committee comprised of Institute Members who are not themselves part of submitted applications. Although the intellectual merit and broader impacts of the proposed work will play an important role in the evaluation criteria, the most important criterion will be the potential for the proposal to gather critical data needed to submit an external grant application upon the completion of the proposed studies. Projects that involve the use of vertebrate animals or human subjects will require evidence of an approved IACUC or IRB Protocol, respectively, prior to transfer of funds unless a coherent portion of the project can be initiated without animal- or human-derived materials. Short progress reports (1 page max) will be requested at 6 months and 12 mos post-funding. Funding for a second year on the same topic may be considered, provided available funding, and provided a meeting abstract, primary research manuscript or grant submission has arisen from the project by the time of re-application. **A complete submission packet should be emailed to FAU Brain Institute Director of Administrative Operations, Tom Graziano (tgrazian@health.fau.edu), by the deadline.** Please contact Tom at 561-799-8100 regarding any questions concerning applications. Late or incomplete applications will not be considered.