March 20, 2017

Dear Deans, Department Chairs and Directors,

Please share this announcement as appropriate.

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) has recently announced Bridges to the Baccalaureate Program (R25), a limited competition award (see the description at [https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-17-210.html](https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-17-210.html)). Applications are due September 25, 2017. The University may put forward a single application as a lead institution for this award.

The Bridges to the Baccalaureate Program provides an opportunity to develop new, or expand existing, effective institutional programs aimed at a key juncture within higher education, namely the transition from a two-year community college program to baccalaureate degree completion in biomedical sciences. Eligible student participants are individuals from groups identified as underrepresented in the biomedical workforce. NIGMS anticipates that carefully planned interventions at this key point of the educational pathway will enhance the pool of individuals currently underrepresented in the biomedical sciences research enterprise.

This program requires partnerships between community colleges or other two-year post-secondary educational institutions granting the associate degree with colleges or universities that offer the baccalaureate degree. One must be an institution that offers the associate degree as the primary degree in the relevant (e.g., biomedical) sciences. Another institution must be a college or university granting the baccalaureate degree in biomedical sciences.

If you are interested in submitting a proposal for this award, please upload a Letter of Interest (LOI) as a single document file into UVM’s InfoReady Portal for Institutional Competitions ([https://uvm.infoready4.com/](https://uvm.infoready4.com/)). The LOI should be no more than three pages (excluding any references) and include a brief description of the proposed project and a statement about why you deem the proposal to be competitive for this competition. The deadline for submitting LOIs through the InfoReady Portal is April 24, 2017 before 4:30 pm after which the Portal will automatically close.

If the number of interested applicants exceeds the number allotted by the sponsor, selection of the candidate to move forward shall be made shortly thereafter.

Please direct questions concerning this announcement to Hilda Alajajian.

Hilda
Hilda.Alajajian@uvm.edu
802-656-1322