DATE: May 11, 2018
TO: Deans, Directors, and Department Chairs
FROM: Richard Galbraith, Vice President for Research
SUBJECT: Call for Pre-Proposals from Early Career Biomedical Researchers: Pew Biomedical Scholars and Searle Scholars and Mallinckrodt Grant Programs

Please share this announcement with all eligible faculty from your unit, including new faculty who may not have arrived on campus yet, who meet the criteria listed below for the 2019 Pew Scholars and Searle Scholars and Mallinckrodt Grant Programs.

The University may nominate one candidate for the Pew Scholars Program in the Biomedical Sciences and one candidate for the Searle Scholars Program and one candidate for the Mallinckrodt Grant Program. All three of these programs are for Early Career Faculty conducting research in the biomedical and related sciences.

The Pew Scholars Program in the Biomedical Sciences (http://www.pewtrusts.org/en/projects/pew-biomedical-scholars) supports assistant professors of outstanding promise in science relevant to the advancement of human health. The award provides $300,000 in flexible support—$75,000 per year for four years. Candidates must have been awarded a doctorate in biomedical sciences, medicine or a related field. As of October 15, 2018, nominees must hold full-time appointments at the rank of assistant professor. On June 29, 2018, candidates must have been in such an appointment for less than three years (not appointed before June 29, 2015), whether or not such an appointment was on a tenure track. Candidates may be nominated by their institution two times in total. Deadline for selection of nominee is June 29, 2018. Deadline for full application is October 15, 2018.

The Searle Scholars Program (http://www.searlescholars.net/go.php?id=1) supports the independent research of outstanding early-career scientists who have recently been appointed as assistant professors on a tenure-track appointment. Applicants will be expected to be pursuing independent research careers in biochemistry, cell biology, genetics, immunology, neuroscience, pharmacology, and related areas in chemistry, medicine, and the biological sciences. Grants are $300,000 for a three-year term with $100,000 payable each year of the grant, subject to the receipt of acceptable progress reports. Applicants should have begun their appointment as an independent investigator at the assistant professor level on or after July 01, 2017. The appointment must be their first tenure-track position at an invited institution. Deadline for full application is September 28, 2018.

The Mallinckrodt Grant Program (http://www.emallinckrodtfoundation.org/Guidelines.html) supports early stage investigators engaged in basic biomedical research that has the potential to significantly advance the understanding, diagnosis or treatment of disease. The funds are designed to provide faculty members who hold M.D. and/or Ph.D. degrees, and who are in the first to fourth year of a tenure-track position, with support to move the project forward to the point where R01 or other independent funding can be obtained. Applicants with current R01 funding should not apply. The
regular grants provide $60,000 per year for a period of up to three years. Deadline for full application is August 1, 2018.

At this time, I am requesting pre-proposals from any eligible faculty member wishing to be nominated for either program. Please review carefully the sponsors’ websites for full details and specific eligibility requirements. Pre-proposals will be accepted as a single document file through UVM’s InfoReady Review portal at https://uvm.infoready4.com/ The deadline for submitting pre-proposals through the InfoReady portal is May 29, 2018 before 4:30 pm. There will be a separate portal link for each program.

The pre-proposal should specify the program for which you wish to be considered and how you meet the eligibility requirements. It should include a research project summary (no more than three pages), a curriculum vitae and a letter of support from the department chair. These materials will be evaluated by an internal selection committee who will select the most suitable candidate for each of these three programs.

Evaluation criteria for the Pew Scholars Program pre-proposals:

- Applicant’s demonstrated promise as a contributor in science relevant to human health
- Applicant’s evidence of past success as an independent investigator
- Thoroughness of the description of proposed work
- Creativity and innovation
- Feasibility

Evaluation Criteria for the Searle Scholars Program pre-proposals:

- Applicant’s demonstrated pursuit of independent research career in biochemistry, cell biology, genetics, immunology, neuroscience, pharmacology, and related areas in chemistry, medicine, and the biological sciences
- Thoroughness of the description of proposed work
- Creativity and innovation
- Feasibility

Evaluation criteria for the Mallinckrodt Grant Program pre-proposals:

- Potential for applicant’s basic biomedical research to significantly advance the understanding, diagnosis or treatment of disease
- Thoroughness of the description of proposed work
- Creativity and innovation
- Feasibility

Please contact Hilda Alajajian, Grant Resource Specialist (Hilda.Alajajian@uvm.edu or 656-1322), if you have questions about this announcement.