

CALL FOR JOINT QBI/UCSF-TAU RESEARCH PROPOSALS IN COMPUTATIONAL BIOLOGY AND DRUG DISCOVERY

BACKGROUND

The highly successful first annual collaborative symposium between the Quantitative Biosciences Institute (QBI) of UCSF and Tel Aviv University (TAU), held in Tel Aviv in December 2019, has shown a high level of synergism and complementarity between the two institutes, with great potential for collaboration. Towards fulfilling this potential, we are soliciting proposals for joint research grants in **computational biology and drug discovery**. We seek high quality, groundbreaking research that has a strong innovative computational biology and/or drug discovery component. Projects must involve strong collaborations between researchers at QBI and TAU that will form the basis for attracting external funding later on.

QBI-TAU CALL FOR RESEARCH PROPOSALS:

QBI in collaboration with the Edmond J. Safra Center for Bioinformatics (EJSCB) at TAU, and the Blavatnik Center for Drug Discovery (BCDD) at TAU are announcing an RFA aimed to effectively connect the computational biology and drug discovery communities at UCSF and TAU through the RFA. We encourage original, bold studies that would be unlikely to be supported through conventional grants. We have secured a total of **\$300K** for the initiative and anticipate awarding **3-5 grants**.

ELIGIBILITY:

The call is open to PIs holding primary appointments at UCSF or TAU. Proposals must include at least one PI from each institution. Applying UCSF PIs must be members of QBI. Applying TAU PIs must have computational biology and/or drug discovery as their lab's main research activity. A researcher cannot submit more than one proposal.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS:

Submission should include the following items in one pdf file:

1. Application – up to two pages (11-pt Arial font, 1/2-in margins, single-spaced), including figures and legends and one page for supporting references. Preliminary data is not required.
2. Details on the mode of cooperation (up to one page)
3. Itemized budget and a brief justification for each side (up to half a page each). The budget for each institute should be the same.
4. Bio-sketch for each PI (NIH format).

Proposals should be **sent to both** admin-qbi@usf.edu and safrabio@tauex.tau.ac.il.

IDEAS WILL BE JUDGED ON THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA:

- Computational biology and drug discovery relevance
- The boldness of approach and idea
- Will affect or influence a new direction in computational biology and drug discovery
- Strong collaborations between researchers at QBI and TAU.
- Potential to develop into a larger collaboration and attract additional funding

REVIEW PROCESS AND TIMELINE:

All applications are due by **August 31, 2020**. They will be judged by a panel; no interview process will take place. The winners will be highlighted on the QBI and FUB websites and are expected to present their work in the next joint QBI-TAU symposium.

Awards will be announced in October of 2020.