

October 2008

Dear Eye Research Institute Member,

The UW Eye Research Institute (ERI) is pleased to announce its first research grant competition! A major programmatic objective of the ERI is to develop new ideas through collaborative projects. Of particular importance is the goal of developing these collaborations between faculty from different disciplines, departments, intra-institutional schools/colleges and between universities. Scientific, medical and societal challenges require novel intra- and inter-institutional collaborations, bringing together experts from diverse disciplines to acquire new knowledge and apply their findings to vision questions.

Eye Research Institute members are invited to apply for funding under the *Rapid Response Initiative*. This Initiative will provide funds to UW vision scholars who have a pressing need for immediate funding to pursue a critical piece of research within a short timeframe. This support is not designed to provide bridge funds to those experiencing a funding lapse or to provide supplementary funds for additional experiments within the specific aims of an existing grant. Rather, these funds are designed to pursue a novel offshoot from existing research, to speed up work in an area with great competition for a "first" discovery, or to jump-start work on an innovative project that may be funded in a future grant cycle, but which might significantly benefit from a 9-12 month head start. The initial findings obtained through this mechanism are expected to further collaborative efforts. Initially, applications for this fund will be reviewed twice a year, and grants may be held for no more than one year.

Please carefully read the application guidelines for information on eligibility and for instructions. The ERI Leadership Committee looks forward to receiving your applications. Questions about the grant application process should be addressed to:

	Tracy Perkins, Administrative Director	265-0690	tdperkin@wisc.edu
or	Gail Stirr, Asst. Administrative Director	265-4023	gmstirr@wisc.edu

Sincerely,
The UW Eye Research Institute Leadership Committee

Daniel M. Albert, MD, MS, Director

Arthur S. Polans, PhD, Associate Director

Rick Cai (Psychology)

Andrea Mason (Kinesiology)

Nansi Colley (Ophthalmology & Visual Sciences)

Margaret McFall-Ngai (Medical Microbiology & Immunology)

Richard Dubielzig (Pathobiological Sciences)

Christopher Murphy (Surgical Sciences)

Charles Dyer (Computer Sciences)

Shiela Reaves (Life Sciences Communication)

Nicola Ferrier (Mechanical Engineering)

Akihiro Ikeda (Medical Genetics)

**UW Eye Research Institute
Rapid Response Initiative
Grant Application Guidelines**

ELIGIBILITY: Applications will be accepted from all UW Eye Research Institute members who are tenure-track, CHS or Clinical Track faculty and Scientists, or other individuals who hold or are eligible for Principal Investigator status at the University of Wisconsin.

COLLABORATORS: As this grant intends to foster collaboration, Principal Investigators must list at least one interdisciplinary collaborator on the project and clearly define the collaborator's role. Collaborators do not need to be Eye Research Institute members.

DEADLINES: Completed research grant applications must be received no later than:

Friday, November 14, 2008 for the fall cycle - - - Friday, May 15, 2009 for the spring cycle

Grants are to be submitted to Tracy Perkins or Gail Stirr, 445 Henry Mall, Rooms 305/307. Because of the Chair signature and compliance requirements, applications may not be submitted via email.

APPLICATION FORM: Applications must be completed on the form provided, and may not exceed the stated length. Applicants should use Arial font, no smaller than 11 point. An NIH-style biographical sketch or brief (3-4 page) CV for the PI and all collaborators must be submitted with the application. The completed application form must be signed by the PI's department chair.

EVALUATION CRITERIA: Each application will be assigned to a primary and secondary reviewer. Reviewers may seek additional expert advice from individuals who are not Eye Research Institute members. The primary reviewer will contact the applicant to discuss the proposed project prior to the ERI Leadership Committee's meeting. The Leadership Committee will rank proposals based on:

- The quality of the proposal
- How this project establishes a new line of research, new collaboration, pursues a promising avenue of research which is not supported by existing funds, or brings a new and vital technology to vision research
- How the project fulfills the mission of the Eye Research Institute
- The ability of the collaborative relationship to strengthen or carry out the project
- Appropriateness of budget request, and the PI's history of funding from the ERI

FUNDING LIMITS: Rapid Response Initiative grants will provide a maximum of \$40,000 in funding (direct costs only). Salary support will not be provided to PI's. Travel is not supported unless it is relevant to the conduct of the research (i.e., no meeting travel), and funds are not intended to support existing grants experiencing a shortfall or to provide bridge funds. The Leadership Committee will review the budget and justification and may award a smaller amount than requested due to budgetary constraints. The Rapid Response Initiative does not fund start-up requests or remodeling. Principal Investigators may hold only one grant at a time from the Eye Research Institute.

It is expected that these funds will support novel work not funded by another source. If similar funding is obtained, the Eye Research Institute funds must be returned.

QUESTIONS: Please contact Tracy Perkins, Administrative Director, 265-0690 or tdperkin@wisc.edu; or Gail Stirr, Asst. Administrative Director, 265-4023, gmstirr@wisc.edu.

UW Eye Research Institute
Rapid Response Grant Application

Document must be completed using Arial font, no smaller than 11 point size.

Applicant Name: _____

*Please note that all Principal Investigators **must** be members of the Eye Research Institute. Collaborators are not required to be members.*

Title: _____

Department: _____

Office Address: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Project Title: _____

Collaborator name(s) and department(s):

Brief abstract of project in lay language (250 words or fewer):

Checklist:

- _____ Completed application signed by applicant and department chair
- _____ Compliance form
- _____ NIH biosketch (2-4 pages) or brief CV (3 page limit) for Principal Investigator **AND** ALL COLLABORATORS

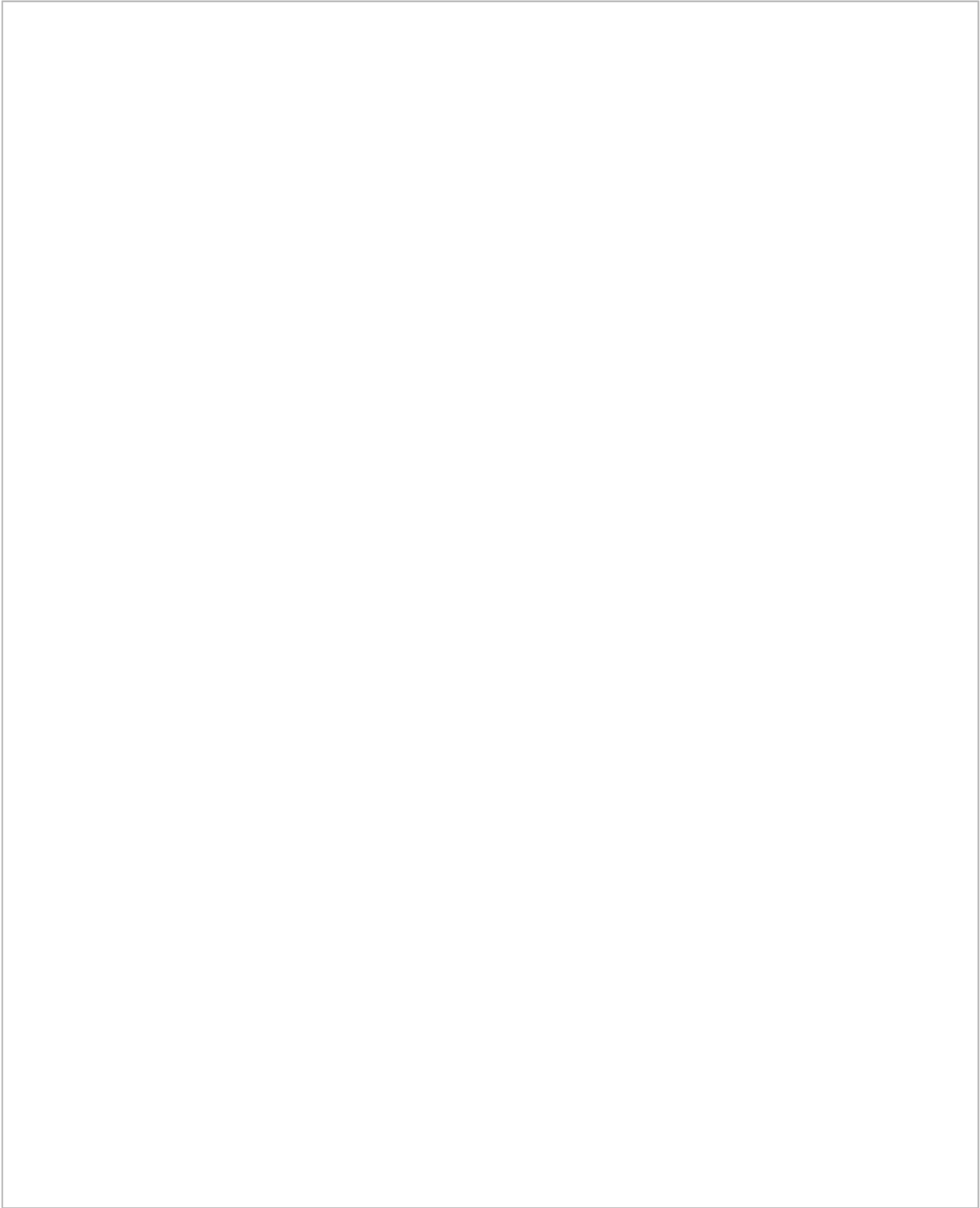
Signature of Principal Investigator: _____
(Name)

Signature of PI's department chair: _____
(Name)

1. **Research Proposal:** Describe the **background, specific aims** to be achieved, **preliminary results** that have inspired this research and the **methods/rationale** for the project. Clearly describe the role of each of the collaborators. Proposal is limited to 3 pages (this page plus two others); 11 point font minimum. Text must remain within margins provided.

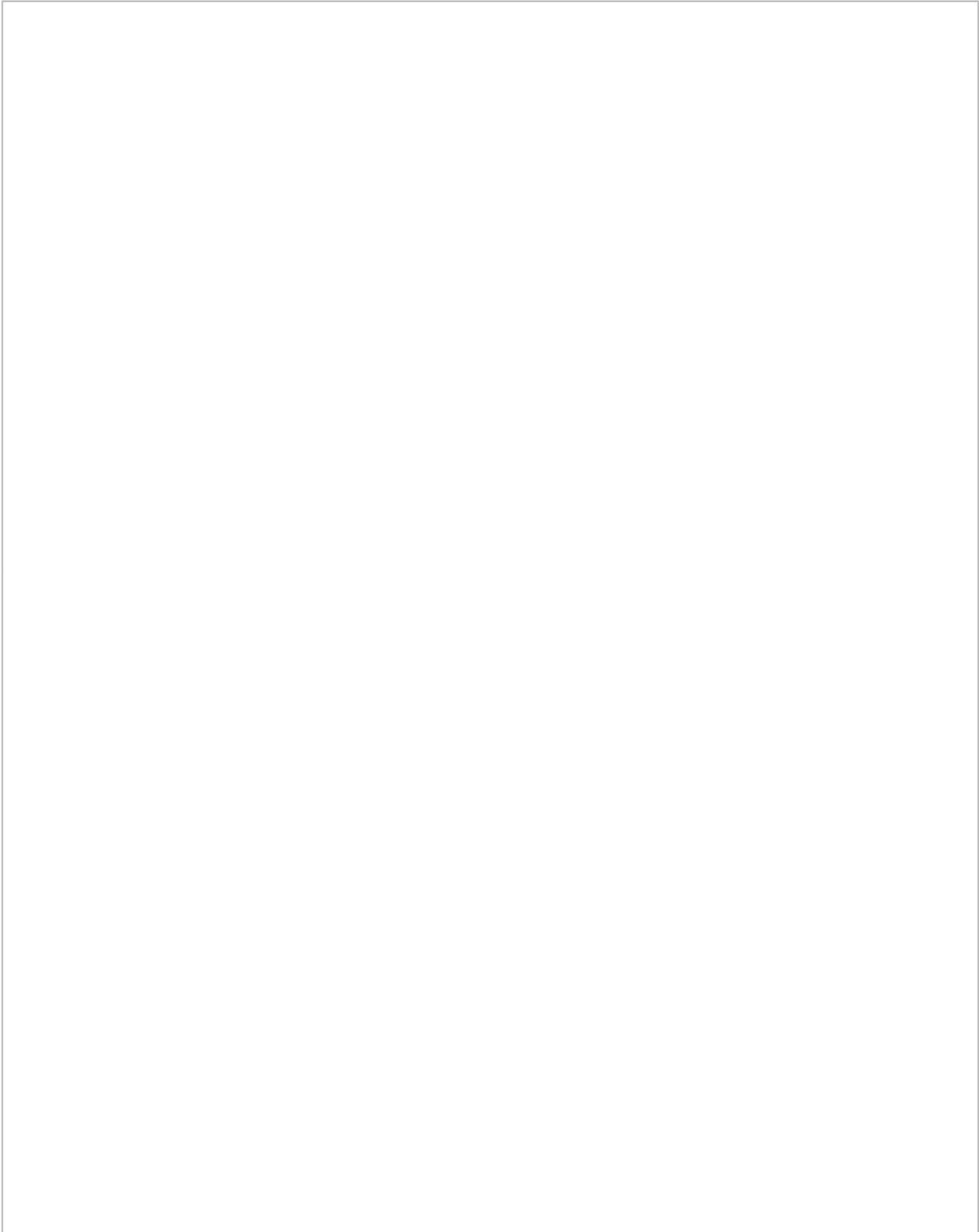
Research Proposal continued --

PI Name: _____



Research Proposal continued --

PI Name: _____



2. How does this project fit within the mission or vision of the Eye Research Institute?

3. List your current grant awards (agency, title, amount, period of award):

4. Pending proposals:

5. Please list other support (endowed chairs, start-up funds, gift funds through UW Foundation) which provides funding for your research/teaching endeavors:

6. Please list any current or prior support from the Eye Research Institute. (Not applicable for the Fall 2008 application cycle.)

7. Budget

Academic and Classified Staff, Post-doctoral fellows/trainees, Student hourlies

Name	Title	Project period (Mo/yr - Mo/yr)	% time on grant	Requested salary with fringes
TOTAL				

Research and Project Assistants (who receive tuition remission)

Name	Title	% time on grant	Tuition remission	Requested salary with fringes
TOTAL				

Item	Brief description/justification	Cost
Office/lab supplies		
Animal care		
Equipment/Computers		
Capital equipment*		
Other (describe)		
TOTAL		

* Capital items must be purchased through normal UW Purchasing processes. Evidence of bids or other supporting materials will be required before funds are released to awardee.

GRAND TOTAL	
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COMPLIANCE FORM

Your signature on the face page attests to your compliance with the following items:

Human Subjects

- This application DOES NOT propose any activities that involve human beings, require personal data from primary or secondary sources, or use human materials.
- This application DOES propose to involve human subjects, materials, or data and is pending review or will be reviewed by the appropriate UW IRB (or Western IRB) prior to the initiation of this project. No funds will be provided until documentation is received by the Eye Research Institute.
- This application DOES propose activities involving human subjects, materials, or data and has been reviewed and approved by the appropriate UW IRB (or Western IRB):
Approval date: _____ Protocol #: _____
Protocol Title: _____
Principal Investigator: _____

Animal Subjects

- This application DOES NOT propose any activities that involve animals or animal tissue.
- This application DOES propose to involve animals or animal tissue and is pending review or will be reviewed by the appropriate Animal Care Committee prior to the initiation of this project. No funds will be provided until documentation is received by the Eye Research Institute.
- This application DOES propose activities involving animals or animal tissue and has been reviewed and approved by the appropriate Animal Care Committee:
Approval date: _____ Protocol #: _____
Protocol Title: _____
Principal Investigator: _____

Use of Biological Materials

- This application DOES NOT involve the use of biological materials.
- This application DOES involve the use of biological materials and covers research not previously submitted to the Madison Campus Biological Safety Committee. I am therefore sending a copy of the required protocol to the Office of Biological Safety (OBS).
- This application DOES involve the use of biological materials. An application involving the same research has previously been submitted to the Madison Campus Biological Safety Committee as noted below:
Submission date: _____ SC #: _____
Principal Investigator: _____
Investigators will be responsible for advising OBS of this new project, if funded.