

# Kansas State University Arthropod Genomics Center: Competitive Seed Grants

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## Request for Proposals 2009

(Revised 8/17/09)

The K-State Arthropod Genomics Center invites research proposals from scientists at Kansas State University for seed grants ranging up to \$60,000/year for two years. The Arthropod Genomics Center supports arthropod genomics research at K-State by funding research that will lead to the generation of preliminary data for extramural grant proposals involving arthropod genomics, including the development or use of tools (such as libraries and microarrays) for genome-based analysis of gene expression. Priority for funding will be given to those applications that show promise of attracting extramural funding. Proposals involving genomic studies primarily of non-arthropod species will not be considered. These grants may fund research by either new or established K-State faculty. Funding for these seed grants has been made possible through support from Targeted Excellence. For more information on the Arthropod Genomics Center, potential applicants are invited to visit <http://www.ksu.edu/agc>.

### Key points:

**Letter of intent to submit proposal is due on Tuesday, September 15, 2009.** The one page letter of intent should include a brief description of the proposed research and how it will lead to extramural funding. Proposals which do not fit the above criteria will not be considered further.

Full proposals are due by 5:00 p.m., Thursday, October 15, 2009.

Please note that these proposals are not to be routed through Pre-Award Services.

Proposals are limited to **5 numbered pages**, not including cover page, summary, c.v.(s), references, budget, budget justification, suggested reviewers and current and pending support.

Proposals will be reviewed by the K-State Arthropod Genomics Center Seed Grants Committee and by referees external to K-State.

Award recipients will be notified by January 15, 2010, and awards will begin February 1, 2010.

Please send a PDF file of the proposal and one signed, hard copy of the cover page to:

Doris Merrill, Program Coordinator  
Division of Biology, 104 Ackert Hall  
(785) 532-3482  
[dmerrill@ksu.edu](mailto:dmerrill@ksu.edu)  
Office: 318 Ackert Hall

If you have questions related to this RFP, please contact a member of the committee:

Kun Yan Zhu, Chair, Entomology  
Brenda Oppert, Entomology and GMPRC  
Tonia Von Ohlen, Biology

Subbaratnam Muthukrishnan, Biochemistry  
C. Michael Smith, Entomology  
Anna Whitfield, Plant Pathology

## **K-State Arthropod Genomics Center Seed Grant Program Request for Proposals (continued)**

Project **duration** can be for up to 24 months. Multi-year requests are funded one year at a time, and continuation depends upon continued satisfactory progress and availability of funds. Allowable expenses include supplies, core facility user fees, publication costs, and equipment (including equipment upgrade), although use of existing equipment is encouraged. Salaries will only be funded for post docs, students, grant-supported research faculty, and other support personnel. Summer salary for faculty members will not be funded. Funding for travel will only be considered if required to carry out the research (for example, for specimen collection) but should exclude professional meetings, training and workshops, as the Center supports these latter types of travel via a separate mechanism. Proposals requesting funding for genetic mapping are not eligible for consideration.

Proposals similar to requests for funding previously submitted to AGC must add a page describing how the reviewer's critiques/comments from the prior proposal have been addressed.

A faculty member cannot be the lead PI on more than one seed grant proposal in a given year, but may be co-PI on more than one proposal. Investigators who are PIs on previously funded AGC seed grants that will still be active during the upcoming grant cycle are precluded from applying as PI, but may serve as co-PIs on new proposals. If prior AGC Seed Grant funding has been received, PIs must wait one full cycle before submitting a request for funding. Due to the source of funds, PIs must be full time KSU faculty members and employees of KSU. Adjunct faculty (such as federal employees) are eligible to be co-PIs, but not PIs.

Due to fiscal year limitations, budgets assigned to a given year must be spent within that fiscal year.

If the proposed research involves the use of human subjects, vertebrate animals, recombinant DNA, or infectious agents, final authorization for funding will be contingent on the approval of appropriate protocols through the University Research Compliance Office.

**Format** of proposal (components should be organized in the order listed below).

- A. Cover page. Use form provided at [www.k-state.edu/agc/funding.shtml](http://www.k-state.edu/agc/funding.shtml).
- B. Summary page, with a technical summary not to exceed 300 words.
- C. **Research proposed, limited to 5 numbered pages, single-spaced, 11 point or larger type (not more than 16 characters/inch), at least 1-inch margins.** Sections of the proposal should include *Specific Aims, Background and Significance, Preliminary Data* (if any), *Research Plan, Time Line, and Plans for Continued Support*. *The Research Plan must include a data archiving and sharing plan, as well as detailed plans for collaboration with Gene Expression and Bioinformatics Facilities, either at K-State or elsewhere.*
- D. List of references cited in the proposal.
- E. Names, addresses, and E-mail addresses of 5 persons outside Kansas State University who are not collaborators and who would be qualified to serve as external reviewers for your proposal.
- F. C.V. of each investigator, 2-page, modified NSF style. Instructions provided at [www.k-state.edu/agc/funding.shtml](http://www.k-state.edu/agc/funding.shtml).
- G. Current and pending funding for each investigator, from all sources. Use form provided at [www.k-state.edu/agc/funding.shtml](http://www.k-state.edu/agc/funding.shtml).
- H. Budget page. Use forms provided at [www.k-state.edu/agc/funding.shtml](http://www.k-state.edu/agc/funding.shtml).
- I. Budget Justification, one page limit.
- J. Letter(s) of support from collaborators.

## **K-State Arthropod Genomics Center Seed Grant Program Request for Proposals (continued)**

### **Proposal Reviewer Guidelines**

Proposals will be reviewed for scientific merit by the K-State Arthropod Genomics Center Grant Committee, as well as reviewers external to K-State. Reviewers will consider the scientific merit of the proposal, consisting of:

Conceptual adequacy of clear hypothesis and objectives, suitability and feasibility of methodology, and time allocated to attain objectives;

Probability that the funded research will lead to additional extramural funding and success of project (preliminary data encouraged but not required);

Significance and originality;

Qualifications of proposed project personnel and adequacy of facilities.

Reviewers are asked to rate this proposal relative to other similar projects and state whether or not funding is recommended. Each item above is to be rated based on a 1 to 5 scale with 1= excellent, 2= very good, 3= good, 4= fair and 5= do not fund.