Prospective Scholars

The Tulane BIRCWH provides a comprehensive, mentored research training program in Sex Differences/Women’s Health for junior faculty scholars each year. The program is designed to bridge the gap between advanced training and research independence, as well as bridge professions, scientific disciplines and areas of interests for BIRCWH scholars. Successful candidates will be supported for a two or three year program, requiring 75% protected research time, and providing financial support for salary and didactic training.

Each Scholar’s career development plan will be individualized depending on their research interests, earlier training, education and goals. All Scholars will formulate and execute an interdisciplinary research plan addressing cardiovascular disease (CVD) relevant to sex, gender and women’s health. Scholars will be expected to write peer-reviewed publications, present at scientific meetings, and submit proposals for funding of scholar-initiated research.

A team of mentors skilled in research will provide trainees with the fundamental training and the interprofessional, intellectual and technical research base necessary to produce women’s health researchers of a high caliber. These mentors can provide access to established research programs with a broad range of basic and applied biomedical and behavioral science and health services research across the schools within the Tulane University Health Sciences Center and the School of Science and Engineering.

In order to be eligible, applicants must:

- Have an MD, PharmD, or PhD degree or equivalent.
- Have completed any postgraduate training normally expected for a faculty appointment in their field (including clinical or postdoctoral fellowship training, or residency if they have chosen not to sub-specialize).
- Have never been a PI on an NIH RO1 or R29 or subproject of a Program Project (PO1), Center (P50, P60, U54) grant, mentored career development (K-series) grant, or other equivalent research grant award.
- Be a U.S. citizen or non-citizen national, or must have been lawfully admitted for permanent residence and possess an Alien Registration Receipt Card (I-151 or I-155) or some other verification of legal admission as a permanent citizen. Individuals on temporary or student visas are not eligible.
- Have no more than six years of research training experience beyond their last doctoral degree.

To apply, applicants must provide the following documents:

- Complete online application form (http://tulane.edu/publichealth/bircwh/scholar-application.cfm)
- Cover letter detailing career goals and how the BIRCWH program will assist applicant in achieving these goals
- Two page research proposal (include references), Arial 12pt font, ¾” margins, including
  - One paragraph on objectives
  - One paragraph on rationale
Methods

- One paragraph on significance to sex differences/women’s health
- One paragraph on the interdisciplinary nature of the project
- Proposed timeline for project

- Recent Biosketches for applicant and each member of proposed mentoring team (must be in NIH format, grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/phs398/biosketchsample.doc)

Current Curriculum Vitae

- Letters from two proposed mentors (from distinctly different disciplines). Letters should include descriptions of:
  - How mentor’s disciplinary expertise will contribute to candidates research plans
  - Prior mentoring experience (please attach a table identifying prior mentees, their current positions, and any evidence of their mentee’s research productivity)
  - Evidence of familiarity with the candidate’s research and educational/training program
  - Specific plans for frequency of contact between other mentors and applicant and identify expectations for candidate productivity (i.e. applications for extramural funding, manuscripts, etc.)
  - Commitment to attending joint mentoring meetings and completing evaluations of applicant’s performance

- Letter of support from Department Chair or Division Head which details:
  - Confirmation of candidate’s faculty appointment
  - Level of commitment to candidate within the Division/Department
  - Confirmation of 75% commitment to the BIRCWH program

- Example of a written product (preferably a published manuscript or grant proposal)

Women and individuals from underrepresented racial/ethnic groups are encouraged to apply.

Selection Criteria

1. Track Record (areas of expertise and prior training, publications, funded grants, written product submitted)

2. Research Strategy (specific value added to the field, potential clinical importance, feasibility of research plan)

3. Training Plan (quality and fit of proposed mentors and plan for additional didactic training)

4. Career Potential (likelihood that candidate will develop a career as an outstanding investigator who will lead multidisciplinary teams and have an important impact on sex differences/women’s health, with potential to obtain independent research funding and leadership in their field)

Applications are due April 15, 2015.

http://tulane.edu/publichealth/bircwh/prospective-scholars.cfm