March 18, 2011

Dear California Early Career Scientist,

As you may know, the ICOC, the Governing Board of the California Institute for Regenerative Medicine, has asked our staff, once again, to implement a program providing funding for up to 80 Early Career Scientists among CIRM grantees to attend the ISSCR Annual Meeting. We began this program last year, when ISSCR’s annual meeting was in San Francisco, and the Board plans to provide support for California’s Early Career Scientists to attend the meeting in Toronto.

There is a total of up to $2,000 available for each of the 80 CIRM-supported Early Career Scientists who attend the 9th ISSCR Annual Meeting in Toronto this June, including the registration fees and travel expenses. Registration for participants in this program is set at $370, via our special arrangement with ISSCR, and includes a one-year Associate Membership to ISSCR. (A similar price is available for registrants via ISSCR’s web site prior to April 19th. Following that date, the cost will be higher.) Each CIRM stipend awardee will therefore have access to up to $1630 from CIRM to defray travel expenses for this trip, including hotel, airfare, needed ground transport and meals.

We are committed to processing applications for the CIRM stipend program and letting you know in advance of April 19th whether or not we can fund your attendance of the ISSCR meeting this year, so that you have time to register by the Early Bird deadline if you choose.
Please follow these instructions to submit your application for CIRM funding for attendance of and travel to ISSCR’s Annual Meeting in Toronto:

1) Fill out the attached registration form and RETURN TO MELISSA KING AT CIRM. Do not send this form to ISSCR. It will not be processed there and your request for CIRM funds will not move forward unless your full application including this form is received by CIRM.

2) With your form, include 100-150 word written answers to BOTH the following two questions:
   a. How will your attendance at the ISSCR 9th Annual Meeting help advance your career in stem cell research? (100-150 words)
   b. What is your level of commitment to stem cell research? What do you intend to do in the future with regard to stem cell research? (100-150 words)

3) Provide written documentation of your currently ACTIVE INVOLVEMENT in a CIRM grant, including the grant name, grant number and PI name and contact information.

   NOTE: For grants other than the Bridges to Stem Cell Research grants and Training Grants, there is a limit of ONE stipend awardee per CIRM grant. More can apply, but not more than one per grant will be awarded, so if PIs have a prioritized list, you must let Melissa King know. Otherwise, the ONE PER GRANT limit will be handled on a first come, first served basis.

4) Send in all materials via the following two methods:
   a. VIA MAIL OR FEDEX FOR ARRIVAL BY DEADLINE TO:
      Melissa King
      Executive Director, ICOC
      CIRM
      210 King Street, Third Floor
      San Francisco, CA 94107

   b. VIA EMAIL TO: mking@cirm.ca.gov
DEADLINE: All materials must be received by no later than 5:00 PM on TUESDAY, APRIL 12th, 2011.

DECISIONS: will be announced on FRIDAY, APRIL 15th

If you have any questions, please email them to Melissa King at mking@cirm.ca.gov.

Thank you and we hope to see you at ISSCR!

Best Regards,

Melissa King
CIRM
ISSCR Annual Meeting CIRM Grant Program Registration

- Early Career Scientist Grants – Grant #__________________________
  Supervisor Approval ______________________________
- Bridges to Stem Cell Research Grants – Grant #__________________________
  Supervisor Approval ______________________________
- Patient Advocate ______________________________

PLEASE ANSWER: I would prefer to receive my Poster Abstract Book on site as:

- Flash Stick (digital)*  
- Printed Books (hard copy) **SELECT ONE OPTION ONLY**

* Flash sticks allow you to digitally search, sort and plan your poster viewing.