Grant Announcement
The CGS/Waltham Research Grant

Colleagues:

The Board of the Comparative Gastroenterology Society (CGS) is proud to announce the CGS/Waltham Research grant for 2013. Applications are now being solicited for proposals in veterinary and comparative gastroenterology. The proposed project must have clinical application in a veterinary species. Also, studies must conform to the ethical principles of Waltham (see below). Informed owner consent must be obtained from all participants in a clinical trial. Prior to funding a proposal these ethical principles must be addressed.

CGS members in training (must be in good standing, i.e., dues must have been paid for the current membership year) are eligible to apply (with their mentor serving as the institutional principal investigator; the mentor must also be a CGS member in good standing). The maximum dollar amount for this grant is $8,000 (no indirect costs will be paid by the CGS and no more than 10% of the grant may be used for travel to a major meeting to present the study results). Funds will be available February 1, 2013. Submissions must be received by e-mail (attachment) by October 15, 2012. Please send your submission to Jan Suchodolski, the secretary/treasurer of the CGS Board (jsuchodolski@cvm.tamu.edu).

The proposal should be accompanied by a cover letter (e-mail attachment) that details the eligibility of the applicant to receive this grant. Proposals will be reviewed by members of the CGS Board and other volunteer CGS members. The winner will be announced by February 1, 2013. Grants are generally 1-year but no-cost extensions of up to 6 months will be considered. A final report must be submitted to the secretary of the CGS by the end of the term of the grant.

Proposal guidelines are attached. Proposals should be limited to five pages. Review emphasis will be placed on a quality proposal with clear and concise objectives, well-planned procedures, relevance to CGS, and a reasonable budget. The Board does not provide written reviews or commentaries to applicants regarding their proposals.

If your project involves live vertebrate animals or recombinant DNA, you will need to seek the appropriate institutional approvals. We strongly suggest that you seek institutional approval for your project while the proposal is under review so you can submit a copy of the fully approved clearance letter(s) before the funding is released.

Please send email questions to jsuchodolski@cvm.tamu.edu.
APPENDIX 1. PROJECT PROPOSAL GUIDELINES

Grant proposals that do not adhere to these guidelines will not be reviewed.

Limit proposals to 5 pages (literature citations are not included in this page limit). The grant proposal must be prepared as a word document (12 pt. Times New Roman, letter-sized pages, double-spaced with 1 inch margins all around). Each investigator must also attach a Biographical Sketch (not to exceed 2 pages; not included in the page-limit). Please include submitted or approved consent forms (not included in the page limit). Proposals should be structured as follows:

A. Proposal Signature Cover Page

1. Title:
A brief, clear specific designation of the subject of the research topics. The title should reflect the objectives and scope of the proposal. Accurately describe the research contemplated in 80 spaces or less.

2. Principal Investigator's Name, Address, Telephone, FAX and E-mail

3. Co-Investigator(s) Name, Address, Telephone, FAX and E-mail

4. Total grant amount requested
The maximum dollar amount for this grant is $8,000.00. No indirect costs will be paid by CGS. No more than 10% (or 800.00) can be allocated toward travel to a major meeting in which the results of the study will be presented.

5. Duration
Grants are generally 1-year but no cost extensions of up to 6 months will be considered.

B. Project Proposal Narrative

1. Introduction and Justification
This section should include the subject, purpose, scope, and justification of the research proposal. The justification should present the importance of the problem to CGS. Identification of needs that the project will fulfill, research timeliness, and ways in which the public welfare or scientific knowledge will be advanced are useful inclusions.

2. Previous Work and Present Outlook
A review of the literature pertinent to the field of inquiry should be presented. Consider the project within the context of the most important and recent publications. Summarize the status of current research and describe the additional knowledge, which the project is expected to provide. Literature citations must be listed at the end of the project proposal.

3. Hypothesis and Objectives
Clear, complete, and logically arranged (outline form) statements of the specific results to be achieved by the proposal.
4. Procedures and Methods
A statement of the essential working plans and methods to be used in attaining each of the stated objectives. The procedures must correspond to the objectives and follow the same order. Phases of the work to be undertaken should be indicated, as well as the location of the work and the facilities and equipment needed and available. Wherever appropriate, the procedure should provide data suitable for statistical analysis. The statement of procedure should illustrate that the research has been carefully planned and should provide for changes when they are necessary to improve the work.

5. Expected outcome and clinical implications

6. Assurance of Informed Consent and the Use and Care of Animals
(1) Prior to submission, the proposal must be submitted to a local governing body whose function is the regulation of animals in research [e.g., Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC)]. When an IACUC is unavailable, the principal investigator must either establish an appropriate institutional collaboration or seek review from a willing institution that has an established IACUC. Non-academic principal investigators are strongly encouraged to contact appropriate CGS members in academia early in order to establish such collaborations. Only the principle investigator and the mentor must be a CGS member; collaborators need not be CGS members.

(2) All animal care and use procedures, and informed consent procedures, shall meet or exceed the guidelines set forth in the U.S. government’s Animal Welfare Act (Title 9 CFR Subchapter A – Animal Welfare) and the National Research Council’s Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals (1996), and/or further required regional regulations. CGS board members will assess the proposal’s conformity with the additional ethical requirements set forth by Waltham as follows:

Research must not result in pain, suffering, or euthanasia of any animals involved. The husbandry and care of animals should meet the minimum guidance as described in the following reports for dogs and cats, respectively:
1) Dogs: the BVAAWF/FRAME/RSPCA/UFAW report on Refining Dog Husbandry and Care (Laboratory Animals 2004 Vol. 38; Suppl. 1), which can be found at: http://www.lal.org.uk/pdffiles/Dogworkingparty.pdf

The following types of studies will not be supported: studies where the outcome is not likely to have some benefit to animal welfare, studies where the study techniques are generally recognized to cause pain or require a general anesthetic to prevent pain, studies that are detrimental to the long-term health of animals involved, or result in the euthanasia of the trial animals, either as a result of the work or as a result of legislation governing the research trials, and studies that use in vivo techniques where meaningful data can be obtained using in vitro techniques.
(3) Proposals must be submitted with details of the procedures and forms to be used to assure “Informed client consent” regarding participation of client-owned animals.

(4) Prior to funding, the CGS must receive notice that the proposed animal care and use protocol has been approved by the participating IACUC. In addition, the principle investigator will furnish any revisions to informed client consent procedures and any additional forms that have been deemed necessary for approval by CGS board members.

7. **Budget**
No indirect costs will be paid by the CGS.
No more than 10% (or 800.00) can be allocated toward travel to a major meeting in which the results of the study will be presented.

8. **Cooperation**
A statement as to cooperation with other practices, institutions, or agencies cooperating formally or informally on the proposal where appropriate.

9. **Literature Cited**
List the references cited according to the Guidelines to Authors presented in the American Journal of Veterinary Research.

10. **Biographical Sketch(es)**
Each investigator must also attach a Biographical Sketch (not to exceed 2 pages; not included in the page-limit).