

# 6<sup>th</sup> Call for proposals for i<sup>3</sup>tm Interdisciplinary Seed Fund Projects – closed call

## Background

The Integrated Interdisciplinary Institute of Technology for Medicine (i<sup>3</sup>tm) will support the increase in research cooperation in the field of medicine & technology – especially concerning the Research and Translation of Biohybrid Medical Systems and Pharmaceuticals. One activity is the funding of Seed Fund Projects. Seed Fund Projects cover activities which give the possibility for creativity to senior and junior researchers and which promote interdisciplinary exchange and discussion.

### 1. Type and aim of projects

The call is open for all proposals covering the i<sup>3</sup>tm research program:

#### **Research and Translation of Biohybrid Medical Systems and Pharmaceuticals**

The proposed projects should aim the identification and exploration of new interdisciplinary research fields, or the development of new methods and methodologies between interdisciplinary research topics. The topics can be new, creative and of high risk. They should not already be addressed by national or international funding programs.

### 2. Selection and evaluation criteria

The projects will be selected and evaluated by an evaluation group. The evaluation process may involve external experts. The selection criteria for submitted proposals will be:

- originality
- interdisciplinarity
- subsidiarity (funding through other sources is not yet possible)
- team competence and preliminary work
- adequateness of research approach

Major evaluation criteria after project completion will be the quality of obtained research results and the future perspective of the research topic as described in a final report, which has to be provided at least 18 month after project closure:

- a promising proposed third-party funded follow-up project (DFG, BMBF, EU, ...)
- publications in peer reviewed journals
- granted patents or promising patent applications
- progress of I<sup>3</sup>TM

### 3. Funding

The budget for Seed Fund Projects is provided by the Excellence Initiative of the German federal and state governments and makes allowances to the allocation model aiming for 30% share of females funded by the Institutional Strategy.

Eligible costs are: Staff expenses, travel and subsistence costs, support for workshops and conferences, hiring students to work on the project, consumables and equipment.

**The requested funding should not exceed 66,000 €.**

### 4. General conditions

Research Partners: typically 2 researchers from different disciplines, particularly young scientists

Each chair can participate in with a maximum of 3 Seed Fund Project proposals, plus one additional proposal for each department within this chair.

Progress evaluation: final report

Project duration: 6 – 12 month

## 5. Proposal structure and content

### First step

Short proposal: presentation (max. 8 slides incl. title and 2 slides presenting the current status of research, further structure according to the structure of the full proposal d) to h), see below) and short description (title (incl. acronym), project partners, affiliation, ½ page summary plus working and financial plan, type Arial, size 11, line spacing 1.5, max. 1 page).

Presentation should not exceed 10 min and will be followed by a 10 min discussion.

(Presentation workshop will take place on March 30<sup>th</sup> 2016) Please provide name(s) and contact data of presenting person and project leader who we will contact in all matters.

**Proposals must be sent as PDF.** i<sup>3</sup>tm reserves the right to make a preselection if the number of applications exceeds the frame of the workshop.

For grant recommended proposals are prompted to submit a full proposal within 2 weeks.

### Second step

Full proposal: max. 10 pages, type Arial, size 11, line spacing: 1.5

- a) Project Partners and Principle Investigators
- b) Summary
- c) Current State-of-the-Art
- d) Relevant Work of the Applicants
- e) Goals and Approach (Methodology)
- f) Working Plan
- g) Financial Plan
- h) Expected Long Term Impact for i<sup>3</sup>tm
- i) References

Language: English or German

**Please note: Proposals that do not comply with the formal criteria will be excluded from the reviewing process. If you have any questions concerning the compliance of the formal criteria of your proposal please contact the i<sup>3</sup>tm Geschäftsstelle.**

**6. Deadline for Submission of short proposal: March 16<sup>th</sup> 2016**

**7. Project Start: June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016**

**8. Contact Data: Please apply via E-Mail to**

i<sup>3</sup>tm Geschäftsstelle

Dipl.-Biol. Nina Keusgen

Dr. rer. nat. Kerstin Spornhauer

E-Mail: geschaeftsstelle@i3tm.rwth-aachen.de; Keyword: 6<sup>th</sup> Seed Fund Call

Phone.: +49 241 8085551

Please note that external reviewers may be used in the process. Therefore, please provide names of scientists/institutions you do not want to be used as reviewers because of direct competition in a separate e-mail.