

Mission Statement

The mission of the SNIP is to promote research in the pharmacology and immunology of the neuroimmune system; foster exchange of information and ideas on this subject through the organization of regular scientific meetings; to increase understanding of the etiology, prevention, and treatment of neuroimmune disorders; to define the neuroimmuno-modulatory properties of endogenous substances such as hormones and cytokines and exogenous agents such as drugs of abuse; to promote understanding of the role played by infectious diseases such as AIDS in disorders of the neuroimmune system; to encourage financial support from funding agencies and industry for research into the pharmacology of the neuroimmune axis; and to serve as a source of reliable information on the pharmacology, immunology, and neuroscience of the neuroimmune system.

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Report from Past-President Mike Roth on the Wuhan Meeting

"An International Success!"

The SNIP 15th Scientific Conference Wuhan, P.R. China April 21-25, 2009

Our first international conference in Wuhan, China, was an overwhelming success thanks to the strong scientific, administrative and financial partnership that was formed with our Chinese International Organizing and Steering Committees. The Society owes a sincere thank you to Wen-Zhe Ho and Sulie L. Chang as co-Chairs of our International Meeting Steering Committee, Guy Cabral as Chair of our Meetings Committee, and to the many other Society officers, members and volunteers who worked on making this conference a success.



Upon arriving in Wuhan, SNIP members were met at the airport and hotel by an excited group of students and staff from the Wuhan CDC. This hard-working group assisted us on many occasions throughout the meeting. The Howard Johnson Pearl Plaza Hotel also welcomed us with a giant banner announcing the meeting and with its first class accommodations overlooking the beautiful riverside park. We were wined and dined every day from the scrumptious hotel buffet to the spectacular Awards Banquet, not to mention the special tours and banquet entertainment provided by our Chinese hosts. We are indebted to the City of Wuhan and to the Wuhan CDC, Huazhong University of Science and Technology, the State Key Laboratory of Virology at Wuhan University, and the Center for Animal Experiment, as key institutions hosting the 15th SNIP Scientific Conference.

With 156 registered participants, the Wuhan meeting ranked as one of our best-attended conferences. It was a true international experience with more than 20 different academic and research institutions represented from China and more than 35 participating institutions from the United States, Europe and India. Each symposium was chaired by both a regular SNIP member and a scientist from the Chinese International Steering Committee.

As in past meetings, active participation by Young Investigators was a

highlight of the conference. Of the 136 abstracts presented, there were 40 in the General Poster session, 42 by invited speakers, and 54 in the Young Investigator's poster session. With help from our NIDA Conference Grant and several sponsoring institutions in the United States, the Society provided 39 Young Investigator travel awards for US trainees to attend the conference. The Chinese International Organizing Committee independently supported four Young Investigator Travel awards for Chinese students. Our efforts to support all of these Young Investigators were well-rewarded by their exciting scientific contributions.

Four trainees presented their work at the Young Investigator's Symposium and congratulations go out to Marisela Agudelo, University of South Florida; Airi Harui, UCLA; Liyan Zho, Peking University; and Wei-Li Zhu, Peking University, for being selected to participate in this Symposium. Two additional young investigators received best poster presentation awards: Tory Johnson, Johns Hopkins, and Gurudutt Pendyala, University of Nebraska. Several senior investigators also received awards at the Final Banquet and Awards Ceremony. Drs. Sulie Chang, Wen-Zhe Ho and Diane Lawrence were honored with SNIP Distinguished Service Awards for their longstanding dedication and hard work in support of the Society. In recognition of their exceptional contributions to the China meeting, Dr. Dunjing Zhou, Director of the Wuhan CDC, and Dr. He Li, Dean of the School of Basic Medical Sciences and Chairman of the Department of Anatomy, Tongji Medical College, were recipients of Outstanding Service and Support Awards. I was honored to receive the Herman Friedman Founder's Award.

Other scientific highlights of the 15th SNIP Conference included the opening session on "The Prevention and Treatment of Drug Abuse and HIV in China" and our two plenary talks: one by Walter C. Low, Ph.D., Professor of Surgery, University of Minnesota, on the "State of the Art of Neural Stem Cell Biology: The Yin and Yang of Neural Stem Cells," and another by Lin Lu, M.D., Ph.D., Director and Professor, National Institute on Drug Dependence, Peking University, on the "Molecular Biology of the incubation of Drug Craving."

In addition to six Scientific Symposia, we were treated to a final Awards Banquet presentation by Jisheng Han, Ph.D., Director and Professor of the Neuroscience Research Institute, Peking University, on "Acupuncture in Drug Addiction – Mechanism that Bridge East and West Medicine."

Overall, the research presented in China was outstanding and led to active discussions between SNIP members and our Chinese attendees. I hope that many of our Chinese attendees will join SNIP and solidify the international ties that were developed in Wuhan.



Mike Roth
Past-President



16th SNIP Conference

Manhattan Beach Marriott Hotel- Manhattan Beach, California
April 13-17, 2010

info online at <http://www.s-nip.org/confupcoming.cfm>

California – Here We Come!

The 16th Annual Conference of the **Society on NeuroImmune Pharmacology (SNIP)** will be held in Manhattan Beach, California from April 14 – 17, 2010 at the Manhattan Beach Marriott Hotel. The Conference will maintain a focus on drugs of abuse in modulating neuroimmune processes and on HIV infection. A major objective of the conference is to support young investigators. The “highlight” event will be the Young Investigator Poster Session followed by a “Meet the Mentors” buffet at which young investigators will interact with senior investigators from academia, the National Institutes of Health, and industry to discuss career opportunities. In addition, a General Poster Session will be held. Abstracts for travel awards for the 16th Annual Meeting of the Society on Neuroimmune Pharmacology were due December 4, 2009. General abstracts (i.e., other than those for travel awards) were due by January 15, 2010. Abstracts of the 16th Annual Meeting of the Society on Neuroimmune Pharmacology will be published in the *Journal of Neuroimmune Pharmacology*. Two Plenary Lectures will be presented. The first will be by Stuart Lipton, M.D., Ph.D., Scientific Director of the Burnham Center for Neuroscience, Aging, and Stem Cell Research. The second Plenary Lecture will be presented by Vincenzo Di Marzo, from the Istituto di Chimica Biomolecolare Nazionale delle Ricerche, Pozzuoli, Italy. There also will be four symposia on HIV-related and Drug Abuse-related topics: “*Effects of HIV-1 in Promoting Alcohol Addiction and Mechanisms of Associated Neurodegeneration*” (Session 1); “*Opiates, Other Drugs of Abuse and Co-Infections*” (Session 2); “*Epigenomic Regulation in Neuroscience and HIV Infection*” (Session 6); and a Special Thursday Evening Symposium hosted by the UCLA Center for AIDS Research and the UCLA AIDS Institute: “*HIV and Host Immunity in the Design of Novel Therapeutic Approaches*”. This Special Evening Symposium will address interventional therapies and translational research related to HIV and its pathogenesis. In addition, there will be a symposium that will address the issue of tobacco and nicotine entitled *The News About Tobacco Smoke Is Worse Than You Think*” (Session 5) and a symposium on “*Neuroimmunopharmacology and the Cannabinoid System*” (Session 4). The major symposium lecture for the symposium on tobacco and nicotine will be presented by Nancy Kerkvliet, Ph.D., Professor of Environmental and Molecular Toxicology at Oregon State University. A highlight symposium will address “*Nanomedicine and Drug Delivery*” (Session 3). The symposium lecture for this session will be presented by Andre Nel, Ph.D., Chief, Division of Nanomedicine at the UCLA Geffen School of Medicine.

There will also be a Young Investigator’s Symposium sponsored by the Young Investigator Travel Award (YITA) Committee. Two post-doctoral and two pre-doctoral speakers will be selected from the pool of

submitted Young Investigator abstracts. In addition, there will be a Luncheon Technical Workshop sponsored by the National Institute on Drug Abuse and the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism that will address new initiatives at the National Institutes of Health, Grant Writing, and the Grant Review Process. A final highlight presentation will be the Saturday evening Banquet Lecture that will be given by Patricia Molina, M.D., Ph.D. from the Louisiana State University Health Science Center in New Orleans.

After the great success of last year's conference in Wuhan, People's Republic of China, we are excited about convening the 16th Annual Conference of the Society on the Pacific Coast. The Manhattan Beach Marriott Hotel is conveniently located 3 miles south of Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) and a mile and a half from the village of Manhattan Beach. Manhattan Beach is a funky ocean town with surfing, sunning on the beach, eating in small local restaurants and walking the sand dunes. The taxi ride from LAX to the Marriott is less than \$15.00 and cabs to the beach and other local venues are available. Hotel rates are \$159.00 for the conference and government rate rooms are available (rate to be determined January 1, 2010). Reservations can be made online at: <http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/laxmn-manhattan-beach-marriott/?toDate=4/18/10&groupCode=snisnia&fromDate=4/13/10&app=resvlink>

When placing your reservations, please note that the meeting code is already entered in the appropriate field. All that is required is that you enter your arrival and departure dates. You can also register by phone at the Marriott International Reservation number at **1-800-228-9290**. If you use the phone option, please indicate to the operator that you want a reservation in the **"SNIP"** block. The block size is limited, so please register early. As part of the conference registration fee, SNIP will be providing an opening reception for all participants and in addition a mentors' dinner for the young investigators, 3 continental breakfasts, morning and afternoon coffee breaks, 2 working luncheons, a Taco and beer **dinner and the Saturday evening banquet**.

Los Angeles boasts an amazing array of things to do – golfing at the hotel on an executive size course (all holes less than 175 yards), touring Hollywood, "beaching it", sitting in the audience for the Jay Leno show, or munching wood-burned pizza at Spagos. The Meetings Committee has left Friday afternoon open to indulge whatever fantasies you may have about the "City of the Angels". One possibility would be to join a group of attendees on a trip to the **Getty Museum** – one of the great new museums in the country. It is possible to spend the afternoon wandering around the spectacular grounds housing the collections.

So, please register for the Conference and make your hotel reservations and travel arrangements as soon as possible. Complete information about the Conference, including an outline of the program, registration, submission of abstracts, hotel reservations, and travel to Manhattan Beach, California is available at: www.s-nip.org.

Looking forward to seeing you in Manhattan Beach!

Guy Cabral and the SNIP Meetings Committee



Election Results

SNIP members recently elected the following candidates to offices and committees for terms commencing on April, 2010.

Those selected by majority vote include:

President Elect – Guy Cabral

Secretary – Shilpa Buch

Treasurer – Anil Kumar

Councilor (membership) – Anuja Ghorpade

Councilor (meetings) – Sulie L. Chang

At-Large Councilors – Linda Chang, Kurt Hauser, WenZhe Ho

At-Large Councilors (non-US) – Prati Pal Singh, Christoph Stein

Congratulations to those elected and sincere thanks to all candidates for the willingness to run and serve if elected. We would also like to thank all members who voted in this election.

We would like to convey our immense gratitude and thanks to our outgoing officers Tom Klein, John Madden, Norb Kaminski for their dedication and hard work. They were a credit to the offices they held.

A special thanks to Mike Roth, our outgoing President, for the outstanding job on our first International meeting.

We have had incredible meetings these past several years, and we thank Guy Cabral, Meetings Chair, for his service organizing the meeting programs. This is a difficult task, and we are thankful for his dedication, hard work, and service to SNIP. We are very pleased that Sulie L. Chang will be our new Meetings Chair for the 2011 meeting and we look forward to an exciting meeting in Clearwater, as well as the 2012 and 2013 meetings.

SPECIAL NIDA and NIAAA UPDATE ...

... AIDS program 2010



I would like to thank **Drs. Jag Khalsa and Diane Lawrence** from NIDA and **Dr. Abe Bautista** from NIAAA for the following helpful links and updates.

For fiscal year 2010, NIDA continues to promote research on the etiology and pathogenesis of HIV/AIDS studies in injection drug users (IDU) and non-IDU drug abusers, human cells in culture, and animal models of HIV to understand the role of drug abuse and drugs of abuse, e.g., opioids, cocaine, and methamphetamine, on: 1) the transmission, establishment, and spread of HIV and coinfections such as HCV; 2) the medical and health consequences of HIV and HIV/HCV coinfection; 3) the toxicities and long-term complications of combined therapy for drug abuse and HIV or HIV/HCV co-infection. To accelerate and fill research gaps in these areas NIDA recently released 2 RFAs:

1) Request for Applications (RFA) Number: RFA-DA-10-014

Title: Systems Biology, HIV/AIDS, and Substance Abuse (R01) - RFA-DA-10-014

New! [Systems Biology, HIV/AIDS, and Substance Abuse \(R01\) RFA-DA-10-014](#)

Key Dates

Release/Posted Date: January 22, 2010

Opening Date: March 29, 2010 (Earliest date an application may be submitted to Grants.gov)

Letters of Intent Receipt Date(s): March 29, 2010

NOTE: On-time submission requires that applications be successfully submitted to Grants.gov no later than 5:00 p.m. local time (of the applicant institution/organization).

Application Due Date(s): April 29, 2010

Peer Review Date(s): June, 2010

Council Review Date(s): August, 2010

Earliest Anticipated Start Date(s): September 30, 2010

Additional Information To Be Available Date (Activation Date): Not Applicable

Expiration Date: April 30, 2010

Purpose. The purpose of this FOA is to solicit applications utilizing systems biology approaches to interrogate and integrate multiple complex databases in order to discover new paradigms that may lead to unanticipated avenues of research at the interface of HIV/AIDS and substance use and abuse.

Mechanism of Support. This FOA will utilize the R01 award mechanism.

Funds Available and Anticipated Number of Awards. A total of \$4.5 million has been set aside for this FOA. It is anticipated that 5-8 R01s could be funded.

2) Request for Applications (RFA) Number: RFA-DA-10-017

Title: Seek, Test, and Treat: Addressing HIV in the Criminal Justice System (R01)- (R01) RFA-DA-10-017

Key Dates

Release/Posted Date: November 24, 2009

Opening Date: March 1, 2010 (Earliest date an application may be submitted to Grants.gov)

Letters of Intent Receipt Date(s): March 2, 2010

Application Due Date(s): April 1, 2010

Peer Review Date(s): June/July 2010

Council Review Date(s): August 2010

Earliest Anticipated Start Date(s): September 30, 2010

Additional Information To Be Available Date (Activation Date): Not Applicable

Expiration Date: April 2, 2010

Purpose: This initiative solicits R01 applications to empirically test the seek, test, and treat paradigm in criminal justice populations. The seek, test, and treat model involves reaching out to high risk, hard to reach groups who have not been recently tested (seek), engaging them in HIV testing (test), and initiating, monitoring, and maintaining HAART for those testing positive (treat). Researchers are encouraged to develop, implement, and test strategies to increase HIV testing and the provision of HAART to HIV seropositive individuals involved with the criminal justice system, with particular focus on continuity of HAART during and after community re-entry following incarceration. Key outcome measures include linkage to care (e.g., seen at care center post-release) and viral suppression (e.g., proportion with undetectable viral load 6 months or more after initiation of ART). Applications responsive to this FOA may propose intervention research at the individual, organizational, or system level that leads to effective approaches for expanding access to HIV testing and HAART treatment in the criminal justice system and in community organizations working with criminal justice systems and populations.

Mechanism of Support: This FOA will utilize the R01 grant mechanism and encourages multi PI applications and/or multisite studies.

Funds Available and Anticipated Number of Awards: The National Institute on Drug Abuse, National Institute of Mental Health, and National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases intend to commit \$10.6 million dollars to fund 7 to 9 new awards.

Budget and Project Period: Direct costs will vary with the scope of the project and may exceed over \$500k per year if warranted by the scope. A project duration of up to five years may be requested.

Application Research Strategy Length: The R01 application Research Strategy section of the PHS398 may not exceed 12 pages, including tables, graphs, figures, diagrams, and charts.

INNOVATIVE RESEARCH:

NIDA is also interested in supporting highly innovative HIV/AIDS research through the newly developed “avant-garde” funding mechanism:

2010 NIDA Avant-Garde Award Program for HIV/AIDS Research (DP1)

Program Announcement (PA) Number: PAR-10-068

Title: Pre-Application for the 2010 NIDA Avant-Garde Award Program for HIV/AIDS Research

Key Dates

Release/Posted Date: December 18, 2009

Opening Date: February 1, 2010 (Earliest date an application may be submitted to Grants.gov)

Letters of Intent Receipt Date(s): Not applicable

Application Due Date(s): March 1, 2010

Peer Review Date(s): April 2010.

Council Review Date(s): Not applicable

Earliest Anticipated Start Date(s): Not applicable

Additional Information To Be Available Date (Activation Date): Not Applicable

Expiration Date: March 2, 2010

Title: 2010 NIDA Avant-Garde Award Program for HIV/AIDS Research (DP1)

Key Dates

Release/Posted Date: December 18, 2009

Opening Date: May 1, 2010 (Earliest date an application may be submitted to Grants.gov)

Letters of Intent Receipt Date(s): Not applicable

Application Due Date(s): June 2, 2010

Peer Review Date(s): June 22-23, 2010

Council Review Date(s): August 2010

Earliest Anticipated Start Date(s): September 30, 2010

Additional Information To Be Available Date (Activation Date): Not Applicable

Expiration Date: June 3, 2010

Purpose: The NIDA Avant-Garde Award Program for HIV/AIDS Research is meant to complement NIDA's traditional investigator-initiated grant programs by supporting individual scientists of exceptional creativity who propose high-impact research that will open new avenues for prevention and treatment of HIV/AIDS among drug abusers. The term “avant-garde” is used to describe highly innovative approaches that have the potential to be transformative— open new areas of research or lead to new avenues of treatment and prevention for HIV/AIDS among drug abusers. The proposed research should reflect ideas substantially different from those already being pursued by the investigator or others. The research proposed must be in an area described in the Trans – NIH Plan for HIV-Related Research

(<http://www.oar.nih.gov/strategicplan/fy2010/index.asp>). The 2010 Avant-Garde Award competition will proceed in two phases. The first phase is a pre-application phase in response to [PAR-10-068](#). Pre-applications will be evaluated by a group of external reviewers. Those investigators whose submissions are judged to be the most outstanding will be notified of the opportunity to submit full applications under this FOA (DP1). The 2010 Avant-Garde awardees will be selected from this group of applicants.

Mechanism of Support: This FOA will utilize the the DP1 grant mechanism. Pre-applications for 2010 Avant-Garde Awards were solicited under [PAR-10-068](#).

Funds Available and Anticipated Number of Awards: Contingent upon the submission of a sufficient number of scientifically meritorious applications, NIDA intends to commit approximately \$2 million for 2-3 awards in fiscal year 2010.

Budget and Project Period: Awards will be for up to \$500,000 in direct costs each year for five years, plus applicable Facilities and Administrative (F&A) costs to be determined at the time of award

NIDA Program Announcements

New! [AIDS-Science Track Award for Research Transition \(R03\) PAR-10-021](#)
New! [HIV/AIDS, Drug Use, and Vulnerable Populations in the US \(R01\) PA-09-236](#)
New! [HIV/AIDS, Drug Use, and Vulnerable Populations in the US \(R21\) PA-09-237](#)
[Building System Capacity for Implementing Evidence-Based Practices in Substance Abuse Treatment and Prevention \(R34\) PA-09-105](#)
[Pilot and Feasibility Studies in Preparation for Drug Abuse Prevention Trials \(R34\) PA-09-146](#)
[Unique Interactions Between Tobacco Use and HIV/AIDS \(R01\) PA-08-253](#)
[Unique Interactions Between Tobacco Use and HIV/AIDS \(R03\) PA-08-254](#)
[Long Acting, Sustainable Therapies for Opiate Addiction \(R01\) PAS -08-061](#)
[Drug Abuse, Risky Decision Making and HIV/AIDS \(R01\) PAS-07-324](#) (to be reissued)
[Drug Abuse, Risky Decision Making and HIV/AIDS \(R21\) PAS-07-325](#) (to be reissued)
[Drug Abuse, Risky Decision Making and HIV/AIDS \(R03\) PAS-07-326](#) (to be reissued)
[Drug Abuse Aspects of HIV/AIDS \(R01\) PA-07-307](#) (to be reissued)
[Drug Abuse Aspects of HIV/AIDS \(R03\) PA-07-308](#) (to be reissued)
[Drug Abuse Aspects of HIV/AIDS \(R21\) PA-07-309](#) (to be reissued)
[International Research Collaboration on Drug Abuse and Addiction Research \(R01\)PA-09-020](#)
[International Research Collaboration on Drug Abuse and Addiction Research](#)

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-09-222.html>

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-07-121.html>

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-09-251.html>

Other Program Announcements in Which NIDA Participates

New! [Adolescent Medicine Trials Network for HIV/AIDS Interventions \(ATN\) \[U01\]](#)
[Integrating Biobehavioral and Sociocultural Research to Prevent HIV Transmission and Infection \(R01\) PA-08-188](#) [Integrating Biobehavioral and Sociocultural Research to Prevent HIV Transmission and Infection \(R21\) PA-08-189](#)
[Novel Lentiviral Models of HIV Neuropathogenesis \(R01\) PAS-08-178](#)
[Novel Lentiviral Models of HIV Neuropathogenesis \(R21\) PAS-08-179](#)
[Collaborative HIV/AIDS Studies in the Middle East and North Africa \(R21\) PAR-08-153](#)
[HIV Infection of the Central Nervous System \(R01\) PA-07-089](#)

Notices

[National Institute on Drug Abuse Policy on HIV Education, Counseling, Testing, and Treatment for Research Subjects \(NOT-DA-07-013\)](#)

[Rationale for Modifications to the 2001 National Institute on Drug Abuse Policy on Counseling and Testing for HIV/AIDS and other Infectious Diseases](#)

EARLY CAREER AWARD

To facilitate the entry of both newly independent and early career investigators to the area of drug abuse research on HIV/AIDS NIDA.

Program Announcement (PA) Number: PAR-10-021

Title: AIDS-Science Track Award for Research Transition (R03)

Key Dates

Release/Posted Date: November 5, 2009

Opening Date: August 7, 2010 (Earliest date an application may be submitted to Grants.gov)

Letters of Intent Receipt Date(s): Not applicable.

Application Due Date(s): Standard dates not applicable.

AIDS Application Due Date(s): September 7, 2010, September 7, 2011 and September 7, 2012

Peer Review Date(s): November/December 2010, November/December 2011, November/December 2012

Council Review Date(s): January 2011, January 2012, January 2013

Earliest Anticipated Start Date(s): April 2011, April 2012, April 2013

Additional Information To Be Available Date (Activation Date): Not Applicable

Expiration Date: September 8, 2012



Alcohol and HIV/AIDS

Alcohol: A Priority for HIV/AIDS Research

The NIH Office of AIDS Research has identified alcohol use, abuse, and dependence as an important factor in the spread of HIV both here and abroad. Individuals who abuse alcohol are more likely to become infected and to infect others. Accordingly, the *NIH Fiscal Year 2004 Plan for HIV-Related Research* states: "**High priority is being given to research to understand the phenomenon of addiction itself, as well as the complex interaction of alcohol use, drug use, and poor impulse control, and to develop effective interventions from that knowledge base**". OAR further recognizes that alcohol abuse and dependence can compromise treatment adherence and hence worsen clinical outcomes. OAR also included alcohol among a wide-range of objectives for investigating the contexts of HIV transmission as well as for HIV prevention research, international HIV/AIDS research, and studies that engaging women and racial and ethnic minorities. Responsive to NIH's plans, the NIAAA Office of Collaborative Research (OCR) is bridging the communities of HIV/AIDS research and alcohol research. Through a unique collaborative process, OCR supports a diverse portfolio that promotes a multidisciplinary scientific agenda that includes epidemiology, prevention, treatment, services, and biomedical researchers. NIAAA's portfolio of HIV/AIDS research studies also contributes toward other trans-NIH goals for the improvement of research on health disparities, prevention science, women's health,

adolescent health, and international collaboration. The goal of this Web site is to serve as a resource for the many partners involved in developing a robust research program exploring the complex and intertwined issues of alcohol abuse and the HIV/AIDS

pandemic. <http://www.niaaa.nih.gov/ResearchInformation/ExtramuralResearch/NIAAAResearchAreas/>.

<http://www.niaaa.nih.gov/ResearchInformation/ExtramuralResearch/NIAAAResearchAreas/contents.htm#areas>

New Application Format for FY 2011 Funding

NIH has announced a new, restructured application format for fiscal year FY 2011 submissions with due dates on or after January 25, 2010.

Major changes on the newly created application include shortened page limits. If a current page limit is fewer than 25, the new page limit is six; and if a current page limit is 25, the new page limit is 12.

Other application format changes include:

- 1) Combining the three sections of the current "Research Plan (Background and Significance, Preliminary Studies/ Progress Report, and Research Design and Methods)" into a single section entitled Research Strategy;
- 2) Changing the "Facilities and Other Resources" section "to require a description of how the scientific environment will contribute to the probability of success of the project;" and
- 3) Limiting the list of selected peer-review publications to no more than 15.

Sabita Roy
Communications Committee Chair: royxx002@umn.edu