The Department of Pediatrics Research Council is pleased to announce a competitive funding mechanism as an investment to ensure future sustainability and continuation of established research programs of our faculty, and enhance our standing in the Blue Ridge (NIH funding) rankings. This program will provide support to enable a Junior faculty member to take on an existing or “spin-off” research project from a well-established Senior faculty member with a track record of NIH or similar funding who will provide mentoring towards the submission of a new or renewal R01 with the Junior faculty member as PI. The general expectation is that the Senior mentor will provide the Junior faculty member with existing or soon to be collected pilot/preliminary data that the Senior individual might have otherwise used to obtain their own R01. The award is for $150,000/year for 2 years ($300,000 total). Year 2 funding will be contingent upon progress made in year 1, i.e. a demonstrable goal is achieved at the end of year 1.

CRITERIA:

- The “Legacy” grant mechanism is intended for an Assistant Professor (Jr. faculty member) to carry on a mentor’s project (Sr. faculty member) or take on a new “spin-off” project utilizing data collected by the mentor.
- Proposals should have direct application to pediatrics. Projects should be innovative, demonstrate a high level of potential significance, and include a strong approach.
- Jr. faculty members (Assistant Professor, any track) with a primary appointment in Pediatrics at UMN are eligible to apply. Sr. faculty members from any department at UMN are eligible to be the mentors.
- It is expected that an R01 will be submitted to the NIH with the Junior faculty member as PI by the end of the 2nd year of the award.

The deadline for submission of proposals as a single pdf is September 25, 2017 at 4:00pm to Caitlyn Bralick at brali001@umn.edu.

PREPARATION OF PROPOSALS [NO EXCEPTIONS TO PAGE LIMITS]:

- Arial size 11 font must be used with ½ inch margins.
- Proposals should be prepared as follows (Note: items 2-4 should not exceed 7 pages total):
  1. Cover page that states a) Title of Project, b) Junior Investigator (Pediatrics)/Division, c) Senior Investigator (Department/Division), d) Lay synopsis of proposed research (1 paragraph)
  2. Specific Aims (maximum 1 page)
  3. Significance and Innovation
  4. Description of Proposed Research (including rationale, experimental design, statistical considerations, anticipated results, timeline of milestones, pitfalls and alternative plans)
  5. References (not included in page limit)
  6. Letter from Senior faculty member outlining how this award would lead to an R01 submission and independence for the Junior faculty member (eg. what current or planned project will be transitioned to the Junior faculty member, what data will be provided by the Sr. faculty member, is it an R01 renewal that the Junior member could take on as lead PI?) (not included in page limit)
  7. Mentoring record of the Senior faculty member (can be in Table format)
  8. Budget and Budget Justification, Use NIH style format briefly summarizing categorical costs [i.e., faculty, personnel, supplies, animals, etc.] associated with the project (not included in page limit). The Junior faculty member (Assistant Professor), should request 20% effort. The Senior faculty member may request up to 10% effort (institutional base salary, NIH salary cap applies). No more than 10% of one FTE will be allowed for mentor effort (in case of a mentoring team, although the expectation is that there is one mentor). Scientific conference-related travel expenses cannot exceed $1,500/yr and are limited to the Jr. faculty member. Equipment purchases >$5,000 are not allowed. Funds cannot be used for indirect or administrative costs, service contracts, or computers (unless justified for dedicated equipment or data entry devices). Subawards to other institutions or organizations are not allowed. For global health studies, please contact Lori Wallin for advice on budget preparation.
  9. 5-page NIH biosketches of all key personnel (not included in page limit)
10. Letter of support for Junior & Senior faculty members from Pediatrics Division Head ensuring protected time for the project, co-signed by Pediatrics Department Chair, Dr. Joe Neglia. If the Senior faculty member is from another Department, please provide letter of support from Chair of that Department.

Proposals will be internally reviewed for scientific merit and impact. **One proposal will be funded** with an anticipated start date of November 1, 2017.

Progress reports are due every 6 months. For funds remaining at the end of the award period, 1-year extension requests will be considered, following which all remaining funds will be recovered by the department.