TO: University of Alabama at Birmingham Faculty  
    University of Minnesota Faculty  
    Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Faculty  

FROM: Donald J. Buchsbaum, Ph.D., Principal Investigator  
    Selwyn M. Vickers, M.D., Co-Principal Investigator  
    Specialized Program of Research Excellence (SPORE) in Pancreatic Cancer  

SUBJECT: Competitive Renewal Research Projects RFA  

The UAB/UMN SPORE in Pancreatic Cancer will be submitting a revised competitive renewal application to the NCI on September 22, 2016. As part of the process, we are requesting 2 to 3 page pre-proposals that include specific aims and research strategy (significance, innovation, approach) with a due date of **April 29, 2016**. These project proposals must be translational and include both a laboratory component and human application that must be performed during the 5-year term of the grant. (Consult Current Guidelines for SPOREs at [http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-14-353.html](http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-14-353.html)).

Current areas of research within the SPORE include gene therapy, targeted immunotherapy, chemoprevention, targeted small molecule therapy, forward genetic evaluation of new targets of pancreatic carcinogenesis, and discovery and validation of biomarkers in human pancreatic cancer and genetic mouse models. However, project proposals in any area that might lead to the prevention, control, or effective treatment of this disease are encouraged.

Applicants should submit a 2-3 page NIH-formatted research plan (using PHS 398 forms [http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/phs398/phs398.html](http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/phs398/phs398.html) revised 8/2012) by 4:00 p.m. on **April 29, 2016**. The Executive Committee of the UAB/UMN SPORE in Pancreatic Cancer will make the final selection of pre-proposals, which will be reviewed by the External Advisory Board, and those applicants with the highest ranking will be requested to submit a 12-page full proposal due **July 29, 2016** for further review.

**April 29, 2016** is the deadline for submission of the 2-3 page pre-proposal. Please submit a PDF electronic copy to Carolyn Maddox: cmaddox@uab.edu. If you have questions concerning the submission of these proposals, please contact Carolyn at 205.934.2089.