

programmatic administrator for the program.

For the purposes of this program, "academic societies" are non-profit organizations active in the United States in the fields of medicine, biomedical, or the behavioral sciences, whose primary missions include advancing medical education and/or biomedical or behavioral research. Eligibility for sub-award funding is not limited to societies within the AAMC Council of Academic Societies. Of particular interest are academic societies whose membership base consists largely of university and medical school faculty members, a significant portion of whom conduct DHHS (*i.e.*, National Institutes of Health, Centers for Disease Control, Food and Drug Administration, Health Resources and Services Administration, Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, and Indian Health Service) funded research.

#### Award Information

The ORI intends to make available approximately \$275,000 for the purposes of this program in fiscal year 2003. This award will begin prior to or on September 30, 2003, for a 12 month budget period with a project period of four years. Funding estimates may vary and are subject to change. Continuation awards within the project period will be made on the basis of satisfactory progress and availability of funds.

Of the \$275,000, ORI intends to direct \$25,000 (*i.e.*, less than 10%) to the AAMC for programmatic administration. (The cooperative agreement does not require fund matching or sharing in project costs.) The remaining \$250,000 will support approximately 12 sub-awards in the form of contracts to academic societies following a competitive, peer reviewed process administered by the AAMC.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Sub-Awards

The purpose of the sub-awards is to provide funds to academic societies to specifically address some, or all, of the nine core components of responsible conduct of research education described on the ORI Web site (<http://ori.hhs.gov>). These are: (1) Data acquisition, management, sharing, and ownership (2) mentor/trainee responsibilities (3) publication practices and responsible authorship (4) peer review (5) collaborative science (6) human subjects (7) research involving animals (8) research misconduct, and (9) conflicts of interest and commitment.

It is envisioned that the sub-awards would be directed toward establishing a long-term commitment to RCR

education involving multiple generations of researchers. Such a commitment would move beyond more traditional, episodic educational events, and emphasize a well-conceived long-term plan, and attendant process of creating and coordinating RCR/RI initiatives that are then adopted, integrated, and sustained as enduring elements into an academic society's infrastructure, and into the culture of the discipline.

During FY 2003, as a result of the first two rounds of competitive review for the RCR Program for Academic Societies administered by the AAMC, sub-award contracts were made to 13 academic societies for 15 projects or programs. Examples of past sub-awards include a one day workshop, *A Course in Responsible Research*, for emergency medical personnel; a mini-conference in RCR education for chairpersons in departments of physiology; an association session at annual meeting on *Promoting Research Integrity in Obesity Research*; the development of a multi-step process focused on defining and communicating RCR and ethical guidelines for the genetic disease intervention clinical research community; the development and distribution of *Guidelines for the Ethical and Legal Conduct of Clinical Research Involving Critically Ill Patients*; a workshop and development of a *Code of Research Ethics for General Pediatrics*; and the development, dissemination, and evaluation of an *Ethics Curriculum for Psychiatric Research*.

Sub-awards made to academic societies following a competitive review process administered by the AAMC will be subdivided into three categories. The first category will fund approximately five (5) sub-awards of up to \$5,000 to support single events or activities such as a special meeting, a national conference, or a publication. The second category of sub-awards will fund approximately five (5) sub-awards of up to \$25,000, and the third category will fund approximately two (2) sub-awards up to \$50,000. These two latter categories will be used for major program initiatives aimed at promoting the responsible conduct of research.

Successful proposals for the sub-awards categories will demonstrate an understanding and focus on RCR education as distinct from bioethics. (Sub-award applicants unfamiliar with the distinction are referred to the ORI web site information on RCR Education). Areas of emphasis for the \$25,000 sub-awards would include, but not be limited to: (1) The use of leadership summit meetings, national symposia, focus groups, and/or needs

assessments to identify RCR/RI educational gaps, and/or (2) the development of a society RCR task force, subcommittee, or committee to begin to identify a society's RCR needs, goals, objectives, strategies, and effective actions central to sustaining RCR education as a core component of its members' professional research development, and their life-long learning, or (3) a RCR national symposium or conference (teleconferences and/or satellite broadcasts would be acceptable) to include some discussion on methods for integrating RCR education into existing coursework for graduate students, and/or (4) the development of a publication addressing a RCR topic(s) of particular interest to a society (*e.g.*, "Instructions to Authors," or responsible resource sharing), (5) the development of a society *inter-generational dialogue* (through one, or a series of sessions) on RCR to include new and experienced researchers on a particular component, or aspect, of RCR education, (6) an RCR plenary at an annual conference to launch an RCR educational and/or evaluative initiative, (7) a national colloquium addressing a comprehensive RCR program for its members with proceedings published in a society journal on the nine core areas of RCR, and/or (8) the development, and publication, of a 1-year series on some of the core RCR instructional areas in a society's journal.

Areas of emphasis for the larger category of sub-awards of up to \$50,000 will include proposals featuring the development of a multi-year RCR educationally-directed plan with a focus on goals, measurable objectives, and intermediate outcomes to address RCR education across a full-spectrum of generations of researchers, as well as providing specific actions to be taken. Examples of specific actions that a society may choose to focus on as part of its plan are: (1) The development of a curriculum, and an outcomes focused evaluation, for a practically-oriented (*i.e.*, with both knowledge and skills development emphasis) RCR training program for society members (with special focus on new society members, or with a goal of providing a basic RCR education to members who are graduate students, and postdoctoral fellows on an ongoing basis), with the findings to be shared with the membership at an annual meeting, and/or through an article(s) in the society's journal, (2) the development of an outcomes-directed RCR educational program evaluative tool(s) to assess the impact, and quality of a society's activities to increase its