The FaceBase Consortium
4<sup>nd</sup> annual research meeting

NIDCR Update

Steve Scholnick, PhD
TGRB/NIDCR/NIH
A reminder of why we’re here

• Facilitate craniofacial research by making large, integrated datasets available to the wider scientific community

• Develop the tools and datasets needed for a comprehensive, systems-wide, understanding of the developmental processes that create the face during embryogenesis and how those processes go awry.
**FaceBase objectives**

(Now → Future)

Data Collection and Technology Development: “-omics” datasets on midface development at the molecular, cellular, tissue and organism levels deposited into FaceBase database

Data Coordination, Integration and Sharing: Comparative analysis, gene regulatory networks, modeling

Expansion of FaceBase organization to other craniofacial diseases and disorders

Translational and clinical applications for prevention & intervention
The first subject on everyone’s mind

• Sequestration
  – The NIDCR is still open for business
  – We’re still funding grants
The second subject on everyone’s mind

• New FaceBase RFAs

  – FaceBase 2: Craniofacial Development and Dysmorphology - **Dataset, Tool, and Resource Development (U01)**
  – FaceBase 2: Craniofacial Development and Dysmorphology - **Data Management and Integration Hub (U01)**
  – Competition is open to the entire community

Scholnick, 2013
The new RFAs

- Same overall idea as last time:
  - Creation of datasets and tools useful to the wider community
  - Make data available to the public quickly and prepublication
  - Integration of those datasets
  - Hub and spoke model
  - Maximum budget for whole consortium is the same as last time
    - Spoke projects are limited to staying below $500K direct costs per year
The new RFAs

• New projects should bring something new to FaceBase – “...must be complementary to, rather than duplicative of...”
  
  – Casting a wider net
    • e.g., approaches already used in FaceBase projects applied to new areas, new approaches applied to current areas...“
    • “…the Consortium will expand its purview to parts of craniofacial anatomy outside of the midface and palate.”

• A new condition for all projects
  
  – All projects are expected to have an active member(s) of their team who can serve as a translator for discussions between the biology and informatics worlds.
The new RFAs

• All applications are “new” – a technicality
• Letters of intent due 7/22/13
• New page limits
  – 12 pages for spoke projects, 30 pages for hub
  – Electronic submission through grants.gov
• Applications due 8/22/13
• Peer review, November, 2013
• Earliest start date, May 2014
Related FOA: PAR-13-178

• NIDCR Small Research Grants for Secondary Analysis of FaceBase Data (R03)
  – Intended to encourage “outside” use of the data that you have produced and to encourage analyses that tie together data from different FaceBase projects
  – Larger than normal R03 budget
    • Direct costs of up to $200,000 per year are allowed with a maximum direct cost of $300,000 for the entire two year funding period
    – Not intended for support of data generation

• Recipients of these grants will not become part of the consortium but will be expected to share the results of their analyses through FaceBase
Something important to keep in mind

• We’ve just begun the last year of this iteration of the consortium
  – It’s imperative that you plan your work in such a way that the hub can process your data and get it up on the website before the end of the current grants.
    • Work with the hub to develop a mutually agreeable schedule for data uploads (Harry will speak about this later in the meeting)
    • Please don’t dump a terabyte of data on them 2 weeks before the end of the grant.
  – *In theory*, all projects should have 4 months of unobligated funds at the end of the current grant year,
    • Continue working on your project during a no-cost extension
And now back to the work at hand...