The Flow Cytometry and Immune Monitoring Core is pleased to announce that we are one of the recipients of the 2016 Core Coins Award. The Johns Hopkins School of Medicine Core Coins Program is a new funding mechanism designed to accelerate innovation and discovery by SOM researchers by encouraging them to access Core services and equipment. This award of $15,000 support will allow researchers to address small, but critical gaps in basic, clinical and translational research that are not currently funded by other sources.

This award allows the Flow Cytometry and Immune Monitoring Core to give users access to BD Influx or FLUOROSPOT services in the Core to obtain preliminary data for studies that are not yet funded. Using the BD Influx, human or animal cells can be simultaneously labeled with up to 13 colors and six separate cell populations can be isolated in a sterile manner for further analyses. This maximizes the data generated from limited samples. The iSPOT Spectrum can simultaneously detect up to three cytokines/biomarkers from antigen-stimulated human or mouse cells which greatly improves the ability to characterize these cells. Improved sensitivity and higher resolution images, as well as the ability to overlay images to demonstrate co-localization of fluorescent signals would strengthen a grant application. Awards will range from $1000 to $5000, dependent on experimental needs described in your application. An award of approximately $1000 per investigator would provide approximately five hours of cell sorting on the BD Influx or one FLUOROSPOT assay.

To apply: Applicants will be asked to submit a one page proposal which should include:

1. Description of your research question and rationale. Include the reasoning for the need of BD Influx or FLUOROSPOT Services.
2. Proposed experimental plan.
3. Justification for the amount requested.

One proposal will be allowed per investigator. Applications from junior faculty without current funding will be given priority. The recipients must agree to recognize the Core Coins Program and the Flow Cytometry and Immune Monitoring Core in any publications or presentations generated as a result of this funding. The award is specifically for BD Influx or FLUOROSPOT services in the Core and is non-transferable. Recipients of this award will not have priority over users with assays already scheduled at the Core. Applications are due to the Flow Cytometry and Immune Monitoring Core no later than August 15, 2016.

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