The INSPIRE network is excited to announce two funding opportunities for investigators in pediatric simulation-based research.

The International Network for Simulation-based Pediatric Innovation, Research and Education was established in 2011 from a group of simulation-based pediatric researchers from a variety of disciplines looking to improve collaboration, mentorship, and productivity. Our mission is to improve the delivery of medical care to acutely ill children and ultimately improve survival from acute illness in the pediatric population.

INSPIRE is united in its desire to improve performance and reduce errors in patient care via rigorous pediatric simulation-based research using all types of simulation tools (computer screen-based simulators, task trainers, human patient simulators, virtual reality, hybrid devices, and standardized patients). To further these goals, INSPIRE is proud to announce our first research funding program with two awards.

1. **The INSPIRE novice researcher award**- 1 to 2 one-year awards with a total budget of $10,000 per year. These projects must be simulation-based and should fall within one of INSPIRE's core themes (technology, human factors, acute care/resuscitation, patient safety, debriefing, IPE/teamwork/communication, procedural and psychomotor skills). Award proposals will be due July 14, 2018.

2. **The INSPIRE Clinical Outcomes Strategically Focused Award** - One project of 2-3 years duration with a maximum

budget of $180,000. These projects must be simulation-based and include clinical outcome measures. Letter of Intent will be due March 30, 2018

The INSPIRE Novice Research Award – Full Proposal Instructions

Overview and Eligibility:

The INSPIRE Scientific Review Committee has funding for up to 1-2 awards ($10,000) to support promising pilot studies. Quantitative, qualitative or mixed methods research approaches are equally welcome.

The main objective of this award is to support novice investigators, defined as those investigators with less than 5 years of simulation-based research experience. We are seeking studies that are both novel and have strong potential for a positive impact on healthcare delivery processes and outcome. Preference will be given to those proposals addressing INSPIRE's core themes. These themes are:

- Technology
- Human Factors
- Acute Care/Resuscitation
- Patient Safety
- Debriefing
- IPE/Teamwork/Communication
- Procedural and Psychomotor Skills

Only one project submission will be accepted from each Principal Investigator. Please note that while co-investigators can be on more than one submission, this will be taken into account during review to assure that funds are adequately divided among different teams.

Please note as well that all INSPIRE members involved with the selection process for this award 1) cannot apply as a principle investigator and 2) must recuse themselves from any discussions involving proposals on which they are named as co-investigators.

Timeline:

Call for proposals was announced at the January 2018 INSPIRE meeting at IMSH.

Submissions will be due July 14, 2018 at midnight EST.

The award committee will select three of the submitted proposals for final presentation at INSPIRE 2019 in an extended discussion format. Winners will be announced at the meeting immediately following.

Application Submission:

Please submit all required documents in one PDF format and in ONE email to inspiresimulationnetwork@gmail.com, with "INSPIRE Novice Researcher Award Application" in the subject line and the principal investigator name in the body of the email. You will receive a confirmation email when your documents have been received.

Award Notification and Funding:

Awardees will be announced at the January 2019 INSPIRE at IMSH meeting. Funds will be disbursed within one month of the announcement.

Project Duration:

The project's stated aims must be completed within one year.

Proposal IRB Requirement and Human Subject Protection:

All proposals submitted must include evidence of submission to the Institutional Review Board (IRB) or Ethics Board from all institutions where the proposed work will take place, regardless of whether human subjects are used. Approval from IRB or Ethics Board is not required at the time of application, but will be required

before funds are given. For human subjects usage definitions guidelines, please refer to the following NIH regulatory documents:

https://www.hhs.gov/ohrp/regulations-and-policy/regulations/45-cfr-46/index.html#46.102

The following online questionnaire may also be of assistance in determining whether a given proposal qualifies as human subjects' research.

https://humansubjects.nih.gov/questionnaire

Proposal Content Instructions:

Note: Please submit only requested documents within page limits and follow instruction carefully.

Nonconforming applications will not be forwarded to reviewers.

Proposal Format:

The primary award proposal itself (including the Cover Letter, Executive Summary, Research Plan, and Budget) must be no more than 9 pages (though fewer are acceptable). In addition to this, further supplemental information is required. This information includes a Biosketch of the Primary Investigator, a brief description of Resources available at the site, and any additional Supporting Documents.

Proposal format in general follows United States National Institute of Health format using PHS398 forms. Please use single-spaced, 12 point Arial font and 1 inch margins on all sides in a regular 8.5" by 11" or A4 paper. Each line should have no more than 15 words. All pages must be numbered and include a footer with the Principal Investigator's name.

Description of Primary Award Application Components:

Cover Letter:

1 page: Please use NIH PHS398 Cover Letter form downloadable at http://grants1.nih.gov/grants/funding/phs398/fp1.doc to format.

Project Executive Summary:

1 page. Max: 450 words

This important section serves as a succinct and accurate project description with clear statement of the project's long-term objectives and specific aims. It should explain how this proposal reflects the mission of INSPIRE. Describe concisely the research design and methods for achieving the stated goals.

Research Plan:

Max 5 pages:

Specific Aims and Hypotheses:

List the goals and objectives of your study, (i.e., to test the hypothesis of your research questions). The hypothesis must be clearly stated for quantitative research. For qualitative research, a hypothesis is not necessary, but guiding research questions should be stated instead. Please note that this component of the research plan should not exceed 1 page.

Background and Significance:

Include a succinct overview of the field to be studied, including what is known about the topic, what remains to be explored, and in particular, describe how and why the proposed research will advance understanding in the field or bridge gaps in knowledge. Of note, the background literature should include any supporting

theoretical or conceptual framework if dictated by the specific research areas.

Methods:

In general, describe the methods that will be used to achieve the specific aims listed above. It is often useful to organize an award proposal by listing each aim in the methods section and then delineating the methods to be used to accomplish that specific aim. It is important to list and discuss proposed inclusion and exclusion criteria of subjects, outcome measures that are well defined, statistical methods, anticipated sample size, data collection and management. Be as specific as possible without unnecessary detail.

Project timeline:

List important sequential steps in the timeline that will allow successful completion of the entire proposed project of 1-year duration. This should include a mid-project progress report.

Discussion:

This should include anticipated benefits to the subjects (if any) and how the knowledge acquired during the study could be transferred to future training or patient care. Project limitations and contingency planning should be included as well. Finally, describe the impact your study will have on the advancement of simulation-based research or healthcare delivery.

Budget:

2 pages: Please use the 1-page NIH PHS398 Budget form downloadable at

http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/phs398/fp4.doc

Indirect costs should not be requested.

A 1-page budget justification should also be included to explain

how the award will be spent to ensure that adequate support and time is dedicated towards the completion of the stated goals. Please indicate any funds or in-kind resources that will be provided by the institution or other entities.

The investigator may apply the award funds toward any research-based salary and stipends for faculty/staff, postdoctoral trainees/fellows, technical support staff (including statistician, data analyst) required. Up to 10% of the award can be used for other expenses such as travel, membership fees, and conference registration fees, but explicit justification will be required. A sample budget can be downloaded at the following link.

INSPIRE Budget Example Download

Description of Further Supporting Documents:

Biosketch:

Max 3 pages: Please use NIH Biosketch form as a template. The form is downloadable at

https://grants.nih.gov/grants/forms/biosketch.htm

Biosketches should be no longer than 3 pages, and should only contain information relevant to the application. A sample can be downloaded at the following link.

INSPIRE Biosketch Example Download

Additionally, the Biosketch of the Primary Investigator (PI) must include information describing how they meet novice status as defined above.

Resources:

Max: 1 page

This page allows the assessment of the capability of the organizational resources available to perform the project proposed. Please include a brief description of the relevant facilities and resources that are directly applicable to the PI (i.e., space, computers, simulators, administrative support, etc). Do not include a detailed description of the institution's intellectual environment.

Supporting Documents:

Only 3 items are to be included in supporting documents:

1. Bibliography: Include the references of publications relevant to proposed study Using PubMed format:

   http://www.nlm.nih.gov/bsd/policy/cit_format.html

2. Institutional Review Board approval or copy of submission letter. In situations where IRB submission is preferred after the notification of the award, the approval letter must be submitted before the actual funding takes place.

3. Letter of Support: Up to 3 letters: one letter is required from the primary mentor, applicants are encouraged to include letters from their department chair or program director, or simulation institutions (if present) addressing their level of support and available resources to help with the research. One page each.

Scoring of Applications:

Applications will be scored based on the following criteria: Significance, Investigators, Innovation, Approach and Environment.

Progress Reports and Dissemination:

PIs are required to submit a mid-project progress report and final report once the study is complete. Awardees are also expected to present their final results at an INSPIRE meeting. INSPIRE must be explicitly acknowledged on all forms of dissemination (abstracts, manuscripts, posters, etc.) The use of official INSPIRE templates is strongly encouraged. Finally, awardees are encouraged to leverage INSPIRE resources and presentations in future budget or program proposals resulting from the completed work.