Request for Applications

The Society of Gynecologic Surgeons (SGS) is pleased to announce a call for applications for research projects related to <u>robot-assisted gynecologic surgery</u>. The deadline for applications is April 27, 2018.

Applications will be scored on two components: 1) Research Concept; 2) Investigator and Institutional Environment. Criteria are detailed below. Applicants do not have to have a history of previous research funding. Single-site or multi-site proposals are welcome.

Research Topic Eligibility:

- Primary aim should be related to assessment of robot-assisted gynecologic surgery, and could be related to improving the safety, outcomes, patient experience, indications, efficiency, or cost-effectiveness of robot-assisted gynecologic surgery
- Example topics include, but are not limited to: robot use for benign or oncologic gynecologic surgery; retrospective or prospective comparative studies using the robot to perform hysterectomy, myomectomy, adnexal surgery, pelvic reconstructive surgery, address pelvic pain or infertility; patient safety measures/ quality and adverse event outcomes; surgeon education with the robot/ simulation; use of dedicated robotic surgical teams; comparisons of various surgical techniques—e.g., port site number and location, cuff closure; cost-analyses; epidemiologic analyses/ national trends in gynecologic surgery

Investigator Eligibility:
- Any SGS Active or Associate Member.

Submission Guidelines:
- Required documents include:
    - 5 page NIH-style biographical sketch of PI and any collaborating investigator(s)
    - Abstract (200 words)
    - Candidate description, short and long term career goals and how this award will fit into their goals (500 words)
    - Research Plan (up to six pages, excluding references)
        - Specific Aims page
        - Primary and secondary hypotheses
        - Background/Significance
        - Innovation and Approach
        - Timeline for completion within 24 months
    - Research Environment (2 pages)
        - Describe resources and facilities at your site and/or any collaborating site(s)
    - Letter of support from immediate supervisor (Division Director, Chair, Chief)
    - Letter of support from research mentor, if applicable
    - Letter from collaborators, if applicable
    - Arial 11 font and ½ inch margins for all documents
    - Budget – maximum of $8,000 to conduct the project. Include a budget justification no longer than 2 pages (budget will not cover salary support or travel costs for investigators, or indirect costs).
- Any application that does not adhere to the above specifications, page limits, etc., will not be eligible.

Review criteria:

Applications will be reviewed and scored based on:

- Research Concept
  - Significance: Does the project address an important problem or barrier to progress in the field?
  - Approach: Scientific and technical merit of the research question, in context of training and experience. Will strategy and methodology accomplish the aims of the project?
  - Innovation and feasibility of proposal
- Investigator and Institutional Environment
  - Quality of the investigator's record, relative to level.
  - Potential impact the award will have on the investigator's career path
  - Of note, reviewers recognize that more junior applicants will have more limited research experience and this will be taken into consideration during the review process.
  - Institutional Environment: Will environment contribute to feasibility and success of the proposal?

The final number of proposals awarded will depend on the number, quality, and budgets of the proposals received.