



UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND  
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

March 11, 2009

Dear Colleagues,

By now, I am sure that each of you knows about the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009, and its impact on NIH as well as other agency's strategic investment initiatives. If you haven't been made aware of this wonderful opportunity to apply for grants, contracts, supplements and construction money, please read further. Time is of the essence!

I am asking the chairs and directors to work with their faculty in order to coordinate and maximize our response to these opportunities. The opportunities under ARRA are extensive and well-funded, i.e. billions of dollars. The website describing the programs for NIH is found at <http://www.nih.gov/recovery/index.htm>. Other agencies, e.g. NSF, NIST, etc. have similar sites and should be examined based on your individual research interests.

**I would encourage each investigator in the SOM to submit SEVERAL research proposals, especially supplements and challenge grants.** The eligibility requirements will vary by institute so be sure to check the NIH or IC website before proceeding. This information and deadlines can be found at <http://grants.nih.gov/recovery/> for those grant opportunities already announced. **! urge you to have a discussion with your chair, institute or center director and to make this one of your highest priorities.**

When considering your proposed budget, recall that a major goal of the ARRA is to put people to work. This can be achieved by including salaries for students, fellows, etc. on your application, regardless of whether this individual has been identified.

The SOM anticipates a surge of research proposals during this period and I will look for your individual participation.

The Office of Research and Graduate Studies is available if you need special assistance or advice on the process. We have prepared for this surge by mobilizing the SOM and campus mechanisms for HR, grants processing, grant accounts, procurement activities and other related grant administrative needs. There is a separate process in the SOM for construction grants and shared instrument grants that has already resulted in many projects. The deadlines for these grants is very soon, so I encourage you to not delay in your preparations.

Please do whatever you can to take advantage of the foresight and funding which President Obama and his administration are making available for the next two years. We don't know whether this sizeable investment will be repeated again. Please seize this historic opportunity!

Thank you.

Sincerely yours,

E. Albert Reece, MD, PhD, MBA  
Vice President for Medical Affairs, University of Maryland  
John Z. and Akiko K. Bowers Distinguished Professor and  
Dean, University of Maryland School of Medicine