



\$10K TRAINEE PILOT AWARDS

CEMB encourages applications for up to 3 pilot awards of up to \$10,000 each to pairs or groups of CEMB-affiliated trainees to carry out innovative and integrative pilot studies in mechanobiology.

Open to any CEMB trainee affiliate (postdocs or graduate students).*

Each proposal must be submitted by a pair or group of trainees, from at least 2 labs, for a new collaboration.

Projects *must* meet at least one of the following criteria:

- **Cross kingdom (incorporating plant and animal studies)**
- **Cross institution**
- **Cross discipline (physical/biological, experimental/theoretical)**

We're looking for BOLD and INNOVATIVE ideas; we're particularly interested in projects that incorporate both plant and animal mechanobiology.

Trainees must agree to present their work at a CEMB Retreat or Working Group, and at the May 2020 NSF site visit.

Details:

Proposals are due to Jim McGonigle (jmcgon@seas.upenn.edu) by **9 AM Wednesday Sept. 4, no exceptions**. Please combine all parts of your application into a single PDF file with the names of the trainees in the title. Proposals will be judged by a committee of CEMB faculty members; the selection committee excludes mentors of applicants.

Include a 200-word abstract and 1 page (maximum) research plan (not including references). Preliminary data are not required. Highlight the potential significance of this work to the mission of CEMB, and note explicitly the work to be done by each trainee.

On a separate page, include a brief budget and justification.

Each proposal should include a cover letter signed by the PIs of the trainees attesting that they approve of the application and that the proposed work is not currently underway in the lab. Note in the cover letter which of the criteria listed above your group meets, the position of each trainee, and how long the trainee has held that position (*i.e.* third year graduate student in Bioengineering).

*CEMB trainees include those directly supported by CEMB as well as those in CEMB faculty or pilot awardee labs. If you don't meet those criteria but regularly participate in CEMB and have a great idea, contact Jim McGonigle to discuss. NOTE that trainees who have previously been awarded CEMB pilot grants are ineligible. Trainees may not submit more than one application per year.