Center Leadership: *Alison Moore, MD, MPH (UCSD Geriatrics and Gerontology), John Elder, PhD (SDSU Public Health), Paul Gilbert, PhD (SDSU Psychology), & Hector M. González, PhD (UCSD Neurosciences/Alzheimer's Disease Research Center)*

REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS
PILOT PROJECTS – ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE RESEARCH 2021-22

Applications are being accepted for one-year Pilot Project Awards of up to $35,000

UC San Diego and San Diego State University jointly lead the San Diego Alzheimer's Disease Resource Center for Minority Aging Research (AD-RCMAR), which is funded by the National Institute on Aging. The goals of the AD-RCMAR are to increase the diversity of the Alzheimer's disease and related dementias (ADRD) scientific workforce, and fill critical scientific gaps in Latino ADRD research. For more information about the San Diego AD-RCMAR, please visit our website.

Pilot Funding: We are currently accepting applications for pilot grant awards for the 2021-2022 academic year (earliest funding start date is July 1, 2021). Selected AD-RCMAR Scientists will receive $25,000 - $35,000 (depending on scope of project) for one year to execute their proposed Specific Aims. We plan to fund 3, possibly 4, pilot project awards per year.

Eligibility: All applicants must be a current U.S. citizen or hold a U.S. Permanent Resident Visa and be from an underrepresented background as defined by the National Institutes of Health.

Applicants should be postdoctoral fellows or junior faculty members (e.g., Assistant Professor). In addition, applications are encouraged from mid-career faculty (e.g., Associate Professor) who are transitioning into ADRD research.

Requirements: Selected AD-RCMAR Scientists are expected to attend monthly training seminars, generate an individual development plan (IDP), work with their mentors to enact the IDP and present their AD-RCMAR research at workshops, and engage in other career and research development activities. In addition, AD-RCMAR Scientists will regularly report their career development and research progress during their year of AD-RCMAR support and thereafter as their careers advance.

Pilot Project Focus: Projects should address behavioral and social research areas related to ADRD, especially those related to Latino cognitive aging, mild cognitive impairment and ADRD.
See ADRD Behavioral and Social Research Areas, and ADRD Summit Priority Areas.
Projects that focus on other underrepresented populations are also welcome. Potential applicants are strongly encouraged to contact San Diego AD-RCMAR faculty (please see list below, along with links to research profiles) to discuss eligibility and how the aims of the proposed project fit with the goals and research priorities of the center.

Resources Available to Selected Participants: A focus of the San Diego AD-RCMAR is to foster independent career scientists focused on ADRD research. The San Diego AD-RCMAR will provide AD-RCMAR Scientists with career development and research mentorship; and education in ADRD, health disparities and other topics. They will also be encouraged and supported to work with data from the *Hispanic Community Health Study/Study of Latinos* (HCHS/SOL) and *Study of Latinos-Investigation of Neurocognitive* Aging (SOL-INCA) and other ADRD-related ancillary studies (e.g., SOL-INCA-MRI). Pilot studies that use datasets with cognitive aging and ADRD among under-represented minorities (URM) data are welcomed (e.g., *Shiley Marcos Alzheimer's Disease Research Center (ADRC)* and the *Health*

and Retirement Study (HRS)). Analytic, methodological, manuscript and grant writing training and support are available. In addition, support will be provided for attending relevant scientific meetings.

Initial Application - Required Documents: Interested candidates must submit:

1. A one-page Cover Letter, indicating qualifications for this award based on the eligibility criteria, along with a summary of how this award will further one's career goals related to ADRD research.

2. NIH-format Biosketch

3. Up to two-page overview summarizing the proposed pilot project (MS Word document, single-spaced in Arial font with 11-point typeface, 0.5 inch margins), including:

    a. Specific Aims
    b. Significance
    c. Approach
    d. Next steps-what this project will lead to (e.g., planned papers, grants)

4. A list of suggested mentors including at least one from the San Diego AD-RCMAR faculty. Include name(s), affiliations and mentorship roles.

Following reviews of applications, selected applicants will be invited to submit a full proposal, with input from Center leadership, of their planned research.

Review Criteria: Applications will be reviewed based on the following criteria:

- Fulfillment of the eligibility requirements
- Fit with the San Diego AD-RCMAR goals and ADRD research priorities
- Commitment to ADRD research
- Potential to become an independent investigator

Application Timeline:

1. **Monday, December 21, 2020** – All completed Letters of Intent are **due by 5pm PST** and should be submitted to Jennifer Reichstadt, MSG, Program Administrator via email, jreichst@ucsd.edu.
2. **Monday, January 18, 2021** - Applicants will be notified if they have been selected to submit a full proposal.
3. **Monday, February 26, 2021** - Full proposals will be due.
4. **Week of April 5, 2021** –Applicants selected for funding will be notified, including any revisions requested.
5. **Monday, April 19, 2021** – Finalized proposals and supporting documents will be due for submission to NIH/NIA and San Diego AD-RCMAR External Advisory Board for comments and final approvals.
6. **July 2021** – Funding will become available, following IRB approval.

Contacts: For general administrative questions, please contact Jennifer Reichstadt (jreichst@ucsd.edu), AD-RCMAR Program Administrator. Meanwhile, please feel free to contact any of the following San Diego AD-RCMAR faculty listed below to discuss a project idea. Links to individual research profiles are also included.

MPIs:

- **John Elder, PhD, MPH**, San Diego AD-RCMAR MPI, Research Education Component Lead
  Distinguished Professor, School of Public Health, SDSU
  Email: jelder@sdsu.edu
  Research Profile: https://publichealth.sdsu.edu/people/john-elder/

- **Paul Gilbert, PhD**, San Diego AD-RCMAR MPI
  Senate Distinguished Professor and Chair, Department of Psychology, SDSU
  Email: pgilbert@sdsu.edu
  Research Profile: https://psychology.sdsu.edu/people/paul-gilbert/

- **Hector M. González, PhD**, San Diego AD-RCMAR MPI
  Professor, Department of Neurosciences, UC San Diego and Shiley Marcos Alzheimer's Disease Research Center
  SOL-INCA PI and ADRD Summit Co-Chair
  Email: hmg002@health.ucsd.edu
  Research Profile: https://profiles.ucsd.edu/hector.m.gonzalez

- **Alison A. Moore, MD, MPH**, San Diego AD-RCMAR MPI, Administrative Core Lead
  Professor and Chief, Division of Geriatrics and Gerontology, Department of Medicine, UC San Diego
  Shiley Marcos Alzheimer's Disease Research Center Co-I
  Email: alm123@health.ucsd.edu
  Research Profile: https://profiles.ucsd.edu/alison.moore

Other Lead Faculty:
- **Tarik Benmarhnia, PhD**, San Diego AD-RCMAR Analysis Core Lead
  Associate Professor, Division of Epidemiology, Herbert Wertheim School of Public Health and Human Longevity Science, UC San Diego
  Email: tbenmarhnia@health.ucsd.edu
  Research Profile: https://profiles.ucsd.edu/tarik.benmarhnia

- **James B. Brewer, MD, PhD**
  Professor, Department of Neurosciences, UC San Diego
  Shiley Marcos Alzheimer's Disease Research Center PI
  Email: jbrewer@health.ucsd.edu
  Research Profiles: https://profiles.ucsd.edu/jamesbrian.brewer

- **Steven Edland, PhD**
  Professor, Department of Neurosciences, UC San Diego
  Shiley Marcos Alzheimer's Disease Research Center Co-I (Data and Biostatistics Core Leader)
  Email: sedland@health.ucsd.edu
  Research Profiles: https://profiles.ucsd.edu/steven.edland

- **Linda Gallo, PhD**, San Diego AD-RCMAR Faculty Member
  Professor, Department of Psychology, SDSU
  HCHS/SOL PI
  Email: lgallo@sdsu.edu
  Research Profile: https://clinpsyc.sdsu.edu/linda-c-gallo-phd/

- **Hala Madanat, PhD**, San Diego AD-RCMAR Faculty Member and Evaluations Lead
  Interim Vice President for Research, SDSU
  Email: hmadanat@sdsu.edu
  Research Profile: https://publichealth.sdsu.edu/people/hala-madanat-2/

- **Maria Marquine, PhD**, AD-RCMAR Faculty Member and AD-RCMAR Scientist Alumna
  Associate Professor, Department of Medicine, Division of Geriatrics and Gerontology
  Email: mmarquine@health.ucsd.edu
  Research Profile: https://profiles.ucsd.edu/maria.marquine

- **Linda McEvoy, PhD**, AD-RCMAR Faculty Member
  Professor of Radiology and Public Health, UC San Diego
  Shiley Marcos Alzheimer's Disease Research Center Co-I
  Email: lkmcevoy@health.ucsd.edu
  Research Profile: https://profiles.ucsd.edu/linda.mcevoy