



## RPB UNRESTRICTED / CHALLENGE GRANT

### 2018 Guidelines and Instructions

#### DEADLINE

January 10, 2018 (awarded in June)

July 1, 2018 (awarded in December)

*Nomination forms are not required for this award.*

#### DESCRIPTION

RPB Unrestricted Grants: \$115,000 a year

RPB Challenge Grants: \$300,000 payable over four (4) years, \$75,000 a year upon approval of two-year substantive progress report.

Unrestricted Grants provide opportunities for creative planning and maximum flexibility in developing and expanding eye research programs. Funds automatically renew for five years unless the ophthalmology Chair steps down or RPB requires the department to re-apply earlier. At the fifth year, the department will be required to re-apply for an Unrestricted Grant.

Challenge Grants encourage the growth of newly-emerging eye research programs or recently-appointed department heads. Challenge Grants can continue for up to four years upon approval of two-year substantive progress report. After four years, Chairs will then be invited to apply for an Unrestricted Grant. Similar to the Unrestricted Grant, RPB can require the department to re-apply earlier.

The Chair's statement should specifically indicate which grant – Unrestricted or Challenge – the department seeks. However, RPB reserves the right to decide which grant will be given to the department, if any.

- Should a department receive a Challenge Grant, RPB will require a revised statement by the Chair specifically indicating benchmarks for the department for the term of the grant. Third- and fourth-year grant disbursements of Challenge Grants are contingent upon approval of substantive progress report.

Unrestricted/Challenge Grants may only be used for the following:

- ❖ salaries (new or existing research faculty, not administrative support staff);
- ❖ equipment (new purchase);
- ❖ small pilot research in vision science;
- ❖ research support (including lab supplies, consumables, data gathering, statistical analysis, etc.);
- ❖ travel related to research

Should the Chair leave the department, an Unrestricted or Challenge Grant will continue for one additional year before it is terminated. An acting or interim Chair cannot re-apply for continued support.

Should a department have a balance on a previously approved RPB Unrestricted or Challenge Grant AND the department's subsequent Unrestricted or Challenge Grant submission is declined, the department will be required to expend the balance of the previously approved grant in two (2) years.

## ELIGIBILITY

- Permanent, full-time Chairs may nominate departments of ophthalmology at university-connected medical schools. RPB grants must remain free from deductions for institutional overhead, RPB must be credited on any resulting research, and funds must be credited to a special account. We suggest that new Chairs be active for several months prior to submitting an application – if rejected the Chair must wait two years before reapplying. Complete grant stipulations are included in final award letters.

## REPORTING

- An annual interim report is required while the Unrestricted or Challenge Grant is active. A final report is required once funds are expended.
- In addition, Challenge Grantees are required to submit a two-year substantive progress report. The form and guidelines will be distributed to the ophthalmology department Chairs and research grant administrators in:
  - November 2019 for those applications submitted January 2018, with the **progress report due March 1, 2020**;
  - May 2020 for those applications submitted July 2018, with the **progress report due September 1, 2020**.
- Failure to properly report and credit research funded by RPB places the grant at risk for termination.

## APPLICATION SUBMISSION

RPB will accept applications and *most* supporting documentation via the password-protected page on RPB's web site that has been established for application submission. Please note only one (1) upload action, with application and all applicable supporting documentation, will be accepted per department. This upload must be received **no later than 11:59pm ET on the deadline date**.

- Go to <https://sites.rpbusa.org/grantees> to log in. (NB: You can always find this page on the RPB web-site, [www.rpbusa.org](http://www.rpbusa.org), by clicking on the Grants & Research tab on the top of the home page, and then by clicking on "Grantee Login" in the drop-down menu.)
- Enter the password: **Research** (not case sensitive)
- Click on the "Upload Grant Application" button to go to the upload form.
- Once you are on the upload form, enter your email address in the "From email" field.
- Upload your application and supporting documentation by browsing for them on your computer using the "Browse" button on the form.
- Use the Message box to add additional information, if any.
- Before clicking "SendThisFile" to send your submission, check that the information is complete.
- Click the "SendThisFile" button to send your application and supporting documentation.

**This single upload action must include four separate documents:**

**Two signed, completed application forms:**

1. One as a PDF document.
2. One as a Word document.

**The third document must include, in PDF, in this order:**

- A statement from the Chair, co-signed by the Dean of the medical school, which must include in this order:
  - ❖ Brief paragraph on the history and development of the ophthalmology department;
  - ❖ Indication of which grant – Unrestricted or Challenge – the department seeks;
  - ❖ Detailed description of the department's current status, including review of:
    - Current research programs and interests, including the department's top researchers and/or researchers in department's primary research areas;
    - Facilities, including equipment and technology, for clinical and basic ophthalmic research within the department;
    - Department's most important collaborations between other departments/centers/etc., within the institution as well as outside of institution, including grants, papers and/or activities;
    - Institution's commitment to the department, including funding (internal institutional and external philanthropic), space allocation, and personnel;
    - Major achievements from department's last application submission to RPB (if applicable);
    - Specific description of how RPB funds were used in the last five (5) years (if applicable).
  - ❖ Detailed description of vision research (outside of ophthalmology department) at the institution, including review of:
    - Current inter-departmental and inter-institutional collaborations, with description of top vision researchers from other departments and institutions;
    - Available facilities, including equipment and technology, for vision research;
    - Institution's commitment to vision research as a whole, including funding (internal institutional and external philanthropic), space allocation, and personnel.
  - ❖ Comprehensive vision statement for the department's future over the next five years. This statement must provide specific benchmarks for each year, with analysis of:
    - Expansion of existing programs and development of new programs and initiatives, including collaborations both internal and external to the institution;
    - Research and training objectives for department and faculty, including a broad-based mentoring plan for the department's junior faculty;
    - Faculty recruitment plans;
    - Facility expansion, including new equipment and technology;
    - Financial viability and sustainability of these goals and plans;
    - Specific description of how RPB funds will be used in the next five (5) years.
  - ❖ Provide any additional information, not specifically requested above, which is unique to your department and/or institution, which may affect RPB's review of your application (i.e., industry contracts, intellectual property, high-impact awards, high-impact presentations, etc.) which may help "build your case" and may aid in RPB's review of your application.

Statement must be on letterhead, signed, in PDF, and addressed to "RPB's Review Committees." Limit eleven (11) pages and font size 10-point or higher. Avoid condensed typeface.

- NIH-style biosketches for each full-time faculty member, including Chair, in PDF. **DO NOT INCLUDE BIOSKETCHES FOR CLINICAL FACULTY.** Limit five (5) pages for each biosketch. Based on the Master Faculty List, biosketches must be grouped by primary research area and then in alphabetical order by faculty member's last name. Each faculty member, including Chair, must adhere to current NIH format and instructions. **However**, for *Section A, Personal Statement*, provide a summary of the faculty member's current research/work in the department rather than describing the faculty member's research/work as it pertains to this grant request. Biosketches submitted in any other format will be disqualified.
- Institution's IRS 501c(3) Letter of Determination and Federal Employment Identification Number, in PDF.

**The fourth document is the Master Faculty List** of full-time faculty, including Chair **AND CLINICAL FACULTY**, in Excel, with primary appointments in ophthalmology as of application deadline. Do not include individuals with secondary appointments in the ophthalmology department or ophthalmology department residents. Faculty list must be grouped by primary research area (corresponding to the Chair's statement) and then in alphabetical order by faculty member's last name. **Include clinical faculty, in alphabetical order, at the end of the faculty listing.** Use only the template provided and follow the instructions on the template. Do not alter formatting. Document should print exactly how the template appears.

Materials received after the deadline will not be accepted and will render the submission incomplete. Incomplete submissions are not forwarded to RPB's review committees and are automatically declined. **Notify RPB if there are any changes to the status of major pending grants or faculty members or recruits.** If the deadline falls on a weekend or holiday, proposals will be accepted the first following business day. Do not alter application format. Do not include manuscripts, reprints, or any information not required by RPB.

Granting of awards is at the full discretion of RPB; we reserve the right to not make any award, based on the submissions.

Any questions, please contact Pattie Moran at 646-892-9566 or [pmoran@rpbusa.org](mailto:pmoran@rpbusa.org).

## APPLICATION PREPARATION

We've included information below to assist you in preparing and completing RPB's Unrestricted/Challenge Grant Application.

**Do not change formatting. Please keep pagination the same. If necessary, abbreviate answers to fit allotted space. Please provide responses in Arial 9 (font/size). Do not change the font/size of the actual questions.**

### Institution Information:

- Enter name of institution.
- Enter name of ophthalmology Chair and ophthalmology Research Director and Medical School Dean; include degrees.

### Status:

- Enter Year as YYYY when current Chair was appointed.
- Enter Year as YYYY when ophthalmology achieved departmental status.
- Enter number of full-time faculty (MD/PhDs, MDs, PhDs, ODs, MPHs, others). Only note full-time faculty members with primary appointments in ophthalmology; include Chair. Do not duplicate MD/PhDs under MDs or PhDs. Do not add residents/fellows in training programs under 'others.' Provide residents/fellows information in response to the next question.
- Enter information to the right for indicating number of residents/fellows in training programs (see example below):
 

Residents	10	Fellows	5
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- Enter number of full-time planned recruits (MD/PhDs, MDs, PhDs, and others) for the next 5 years. Do not duplicate MD/PhDs under MDs or PhDs.
- Enter number of basic scientists who have secondary appointments in ophthalmology. This number should reflect those individuals who have primary appointments in other departments and have secondary appointments in ophthalmology.
- Enter square footage of administrative space, clinical space, and basic and clinical research space of ophthalmology department on campus. Do not include space in other departments or affiliated facilities.

### Summary:

- **Limit response to fifteen (15) lines or less.**
- In layman's terms, highlight the most important scientific aspects of the department's research activities and, from the Chair's letter, summarize/encapsulate the Chair's vision statement for the department.

### Ophthalmology Department's Current Grant Support:

- **Listing must only include grants administered by the Ophthalmology Department AND where the PI is a full-time faculty member of the Ophthalmology Department.**
- Summarize NEI and non-NEI current support. Take information from pages 2 and 3 of application.
- Enter total number of grants from a specific source and for a specific type (NEI/R01, NEI/R21, etc.). Group similar sources together for Industry, Foundation/Private, Academic, Other, etc. to save space (see example below):
 

Total Number	Source	Type
14	NEI	R01/R21/etc.
1	Industry	N/A
3	Foundation/Private	N/A
5	Academic	N/A
2	Other	N/A
- Enter Current Year Direct Costs and Total Grant Support (include direct and indirect costs in Total Grant Amount).
- Enter Years as YY-YY. Provide actual years of grant(s), e.g., 15-19, not total number of years, e.g., 4.

**Ophthalmology Department's Pending Grant Support:**

- **Listing must only include grants administered by the Ophthalmology Department AND where the PI is a full-time faculty member of the Ophthalmology Department.**
- Summarize NEI and non-NEI pending support. Take information from page 3 of application.
- Enter total number of grants from a specific source and for a specific type (NEI/R01, NEI/R21, etc.). Group similar sources together for Industry, Foundation/Private, Academic, Other, etc. to save space (see example below):

Total Number	Source	Type
14	NEI	R01/R21/etc.
1	Industry	N/A
3	Foundation/Private	N/A
5	Academic	N/A
2	Other	N/A

- Enter Current Year Direct Costs and Total Grant Support (include direct and indirect costs in Total Grant Amount).
- Enter Years as YY-YY. Provide actual years of grant(s), e.g., 18-22, not total number of years, e.g., 4.

**For RPB Use Only:**

- This section is for RPB Use Only. **DO NOT ENTER ANY INFORMATION.**

**Ophthalmology Department's Current NEI Grant Support:**

- **Listing must only include grants administered by the Ophthalmology Department AND where the PI is a full-time faculty member of the Ophthalmology Department.**
- Add pages as needed. When doing so, identify categories/headings as they appear. **Do not include individuals who have secondary appointments in the ophthalmology department.**
- Enter total number of full-time faculty members with primary appointments in ophthalmology as **Principal Investigators** on NEI grants and the NEI type (see example below):

Total Number of Faculty	NEI Type
5	R01
4	R21

- Provide details of NEI grants noted above with PI's last name, type (e.g., R21, etc.), title, direct costs for current year, total grant amount, and years (YY-YY). Provide actual years of grant, e.g., 15-19, not total number of years, e.g., 4. **Group by type, not PI.**
- Only include those awarded to the ophthalmology department. If funds have transferred with PI, list only funding and years to your department.

**Ophthalmology Department's Current Non-NEI Grant Support:**

- Listing must only include grants administered by the Ophthalmology Department AND where the PI is a full-time faculty member of the Ophthalmology Department.
- Add pages as needed. When doing so, identify categories/headings as they appear. **Do not include individuals who have secondary appointments in the ophthalmology department.**
- Enter Source/Type, PI last name, direct costs for current year, total grant amount, and years YY-YY (see example below):

NIH/K05	Smith	\$150,000	\$ 275,000	17-20
NIH/K21	Jones	\$ 60,000	\$ 120,000	17-19
NIH/R55	Barnes	\$275,000	\$ 500,000	17-22
XYZ Fndn	Carr	\$100,000	\$ 200,000	17-19
ABC Pharma	Sisti	\$500,000	\$1,000,000	17-19
Edison Univ	Thompson	\$300,000	\$ 900,000	17-20

- **Group by source (NIH; Foundation/Private; Industry; etc.) first, then by type of grant (K05, K21, etc.). Do not group by PI.** Do not duplicate NEI grants listed on page 2 of application. Grants from other NIH institutes should be identified as such. Include only those grants awarded to full-time faculty members with primary appointments in ophthalmology. Identify subcontracts. Group grant types together. If funds have transferred with PI, list only funding and years to your department.

**Ophthalmology Department's Pending NEI and Non-NEI Grant Support:**

- Listing must only include grants administered by the Ophthalmology Department AND where the PI is a full-time faculty member of the Ophthalmology Department.
- Add pages as needed. When doing so, identify categories/headings as they appear. **Do not include individuals who have secondary appointments in the ophthalmology department.**
- Enter Source/Type, PI last name, direct costs for current year, total grant amount, and years YY-YY (see example below):

NEI/R01	Smith	\$150,000	\$ 275,000	18-19
NEI/R01	Jones	\$ 60,000	\$ 120,000	18-22
NEI/R21	Barnes	\$ 275,000	\$ 500,000	18-20
XYZ Fndn	Carr	\$100,000	\$ 200,000	18-20
ABC Pharma	Sisti	\$500,000	\$1,000,000	18-20
Edison Univ	Thompson	\$300,000	\$ 900,000	18-21

- **Group by source (NIH; Foundation/Private; Industry; etc.) first, then by type of grant (K05, K21, etc.). Do not group by PI.** Identify subcontracts. Group grant types together. Include only those grants awarded to full-time faculty members with primary appointments in ophthalmology.

**Current NEI Grant Support for Researchers within Institution Collaborating with Ophthalmology Department:**

- Add pages as needed. When doing so, identify categories/headings as they appear. **Do not include individuals who have primary appointments in the ophthalmology department.**
- Enter total number of researchers within institution collaborating with ophthalmology department as **Principal Investigators** on NEI grants awarded to their primary departments. Add the NEI type (see example below):

Total Number of Researchers	NEI Type
5	R01
4	R21

- Provide details of NEI grants noted above with PI's last name/primary department, type (e.g., R21, etc.), title, direct costs for current year, total grant amount, and years (YY-YY).

**Current Vision-Related Grant Support (non-NEI) for Researchers within Institution Collaborating with Ophthalmology Department:**

- Add pages as needed. When doing so, identify categories/headings as they appear. **Do not include individuals who have primary appointments in the ophthalmology department. Grant support must be vision-related.**
- Enter Source/Type, PI last name/primary department, direct costs for current year, total grant amount, and years YY-YY (see example below):

NIH/K05	Smith/Pathology	\$150,000	\$ 275,000	18-21
NIH/K21	Jones/Biological Chemistry	\$ 60,000	\$ 120,000	18-20
NIH/R55	Barnes/Neurology	\$275,000	\$ 500,000	18-23
XYZ Fndn	Carr/Biomedical Engineering	\$100,000	\$ 200,000	18-20
ABC Pharma	Sisti/Pharmacology	\$500,000	\$1,000,000	18-20
Edison Univ	Thompson/Physiology	\$300,000	\$ 900,000	18-21

- List vision-related grants awarded to researchers as **Principal Investigators** within institution collaborating with ophthalmology department. **Group by source (NIH; Foundation/Private; Industry; etc.) first, then by type of grant (K05, K21, etc.). Do not group by PI.** Do not duplicate NEI grants listed on page 4 of application. Grants from other NIH institutes should be identified as such. Identify subcontracts. Group grant types together.

**Publications:**

- Ophthalmology department's publications for last full calendar year from **current, full-time faculty with primary appointments in ophthalmology only**. Indicate calendar year. Provide number of peer-reviewed publications; number of other publications; total number of publications (number of peer-reviewed and other publications should equal total number of publications). Provide number of RPB-cited publications, if any.
- Ophthalmology department's publications for last full five calendar years from **current, full-time faculty with primary appointments in ophthalmology only**. Indicate calendar year period. Provide number of peer-reviewed publications; number of other publications; total number of publications (number of peer-reviewed and other publications should equal total number of publications). Provide number of RPB-cited publications, if any.

**Agreement:**

- Place X to the right of your selection for the following (see example below):

Master Faculty List submitted lists full-time faculty with primary appointments in Ophthalmology Department: Yes X No  
 Space allocations indicated are accurate: Yes X No  
 All grants listed on this form were awarded to full-time Ophthalmic faculty: Yes X No

- Chair and Medical School Dean to sign.

**Contact Information:**

- Enter contact information for ophthalmology Chair; include degrees.
- Enter name and contact information of Research Grant Administrator responsible for RPB applications. Include address if different than Chair's and include degrees.
- Enter contact information for Director of Research and Dean of the Medical School; include degrees.

**Top Ten Publications of Ophthalmology Department:**

- **When completing this section, consider this a documentation of the department's best research in the last five (5) years. Among other things, RPB will take into account the journal's impact factor as well as the number of citations for each publication. We understand that a recently released or cutting-edge publication may have fewer citations.**
- In bibliography format, list top ten publications from the last five (5) calendar years from the department's current primary, full-time faculty. Underline your ophthalmology faculty in each listing. Original articles only – do not include reviews. Include one (1) short sentence after each listing as to why the publication is significant. Add pages as needed.



**Top Ten Publications of Researchers within Institution doing Vision-Related Research:**

- **When completing this section, consider this a documentation of the institution's best vision research in the last five (5) years for researchers outside of the ophthalmology department. Among other things, RPB will take into account the journal's impact factor as well as the number of citations for each publication. We understand that a recently released or cutting-edge publication may have fewer citations.**
- In bibliography format, list top ten publications from the last five (5) calendar years from the institution's current faculty (**those outside of the ophthalmology department**) doing vision-related research. Under institution's vision researchers in each listing. Original articles only – do not include reviews. Include one (1) short sentence after each listing as to why the publication is significant. Add pages as needed.

**Master Faculty List: (Excel)**

- Provide only full-time faculty, including the Chair, with primary appointments in ophthalmology as of application deadline. **Please alert RPB if there are any changes to the department's faculty after the application is submitted. Do not include individuals with secondary appointments in the ophthalmology department or ophthalmology department residents. Instructions on clinical faculty are below.**
- Enter institution name, last name of ophthalmology Chair, and year submitting application (YYYY).
- Enter full-time faculty name/degrees, title within ophthalmology department and, if applicable, title and secondary department for faculty member.
- Provide primary research area for each faculty; research area wording should be kept to a minimum (1-3 words at most) and should correspond to the primary research areas of the department identified in the Chair's statement. If faculty's primary research area is not among those identified in the Chair's statement, note **All Other** with the research area next to it. **Include clinical faculty, in alphabetical order, at the end of the faculty listing and indicate Clinical in the Primary Research Area.** (see attached sample).
- Indicate whether the faculty has current funding for sources noted (see attached sample).
- Provide number of peer-reviewed publications for each faculty throughout career and last five years; indicate N/A for no publications (see attached sample).
- Group by Primary Research Area; then sort alphabetically by last name of faculty. Biosketches, **except for clinical faculty**, must be submitted in the same order as listed on the Master Faculty List.
- Do not alter template; document should print exactly how the template appears.

**Institution:**  
**Ophthalmology Chair:**  
**Year of Submission:**

1. Provide only full-time faculty, including Chair, with primary appointments in ophthalmology as of application deadline; indicate secondary appointments, if applicable, for full-time ophthalmology faculty. <b>Do not include individuals with secondary appointments in ophthalmology and/or ophthalmology department residents .</b>
2. Provide <b>primary</b> research area for each faculty; research area wording should be kept to a minimum and should correspond to the primary research areas of the department identified in the Chair's statement. If faculty's primary research area is not among those identified in the Chair's letter, note <b>All Other</b> with the research area next to it, e.g., All Other-Amblyopia. <b>Include clinical faculty, in alphabetical order, at the end of the faculty listing and indicate Clinical in the Primary Research Area .</b>
3. Using Yes or No only, indicate whether the faculty has current funding from: federal agencies and/or non-federal agencies.
4. Provide number of peer-reviewed publications for each faculty throughout career and last five years; indicate N/A for no publications.
5. <b>Group by Primary Research Area; then sort alphabetically by last name of faculty. Biosketches, except for the clinical faculty, should be submitted in the same order.</b>
6. <b>Do not alter formatting; document must print exactly how the template appears.</b>

[illegible]

## **RPB MASTER FACULTY LIST SAMPLE**

**Institution: Edison University**  
**Ophthalmology Chair: Linda Davis, MD, PhD**  
**Year of Submission: 2018**

[illegible]

## **NIH-STYLE BIOSKETCH FORMAT AND SAMPLE**

**BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH**

Provide the following information for the Senior/key personnel and other significant contributors.  
Follow this format for each person. DO NOT EXCEED FIVE PAGES.

NAME:

eRA COMMONS USER NAME (credential, e.g., agency login):

POSITION TITLE:

EDUCATION/TRAINING *(Begin with baccalaureate or other initial professional education, such as nursing, include postdoctoral training and residency training if applicable. Add/delete rows as necessary.)*

INSTITUTION AND LOCATION	DEGREE (if applicable)	Completion Date MM/YYYY	FIELD OF STUDY

**NOTE: The Biographical Sketch may not exceed five pages. Follow the formats and instructions below.**

**A. Personal Statement**

Briefly describe why you are well-suited for your role(s) in the project described in this application. The relevant factors may include aspects of your training; your previous experimental work on this specific topic or related topics; your technical expertise; your collaborators or scientific environment; and your past performance in this or related fields (you may mention specific contributions to science that are not included in Section C). Also, you may identify up to four peer reviewed publications that specifically highlight your experience and qualifications for this project. If you wish to explain impediments to your past productivity, you may include a description of factors such as family care responsibilities, illness, disability, and active duty military service.

**B. Positions and Honors**

List in chronological order previous positions, concluding with the present position. List any honors. Include present membership on any Federal Government public advisory committee.

**C. Contribution to Science**

Briefly describe up to five of your most significant contributions to science. For each contribution, indicate the historical background that frames the scientific problem; the central finding(s); the influence of the finding(s) on the progress of science or the application of those finding(s) to health or technology; and your specific role in the described work. For each of these contributions, reference up to four peer-reviewed publications or other non-publication research products (can include audio or video products; patents; data and research materials; databases; educational aids or curricula; instruments or equipment; models; protocols; and software or netware) that are relevant to the described contribution. The description of each contribution should be no longer than one half page including figures and citations. Also provide a URL to a full list of your published work as found in a publicly available digital database such as SciENcv or My Bibliography, which are maintained by the US National Library of Medicine.

**D. Research Support**

List both selected ongoing and completed research projects for the past three years (Federal or non-Federally-supported). *Begin with the projects that are most relevant to the research proposed in the application.* Briefly indicate the overall goals of the projects and responsibilities of the key person identified on the Biographical Sketch. Do not include number of person months or direct costs.

**BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH**

Provide the following information for the Senior/key personnel and other significant contributors.  
Follow this format for each person. **DO NOT EXCEED FIVE PAGES.**

NAME: Hunt, Morgan Casey

eRA COMMONS USER NAME (credential, e.g., agency login): huntmc

POSITION TITLE: Associate Professor of Psychology

EDUCATION/TRAINING *(Begin with baccalaureate or other initial professional education, such as nursing, include postdoctoral training and residency training if applicable. Add/delete rows as necessary.)*

INSTITUTION AND LOCATION	DEGREE (if applicable)	Completion Date MM/YYYY	FIELD OF STUDY
University of California, Berkeley	B.S	05/1990	Psychology
University of Vermont	Ph.D.	05/1996	Experimental Psychology
University of California, Berkeley	Postdoctoral	08/1998	Public Health and Epidemiology

**A. Personal Statement**

I have the expertise, leadership, training, expertise and motivation necessary to successfully carry out the proposed research project. I have a broad background in psychology, with specific training and expertise in ethnographic and survey research and secondary data analysis on psychological aspects of drug addiction. My research includes neuropsychological changes associated with addiction. As PI or co-Investigator on several university- and NIH-funded grants, I laid the groundwork for the proposed research by developing effective measures of disability, depression, and other psychosocial factors relevant to the aging substance abuser, and by establishing strong ties with community providers that will make it possible to recruit and track participants over time as documented in the following publications. In addition, I successfully administered the projects (e.g. staffing, research protections, budget), collaborated with other researchers, and produced several peer-reviewed publications from each project. As a result of these previous experiences, I am aware of the importance of frequent communication among project members and of constructing a realistic research plan, timeline, and budget. The current application builds logically on my prior work. During 2005-2006 my career was disrupted due to family obligations. However, upon returning to the field I immediately resumed my research projects and collaborations and successfully competed for NIH support.

1. Merrylye, R.J. & Hunt, M.C. (2004). Independent living, physical disability and substance abuse among the elderly. *Psychology and Aging*, 23(4), 10-22.
2. Hunt, M.C., Jensen, J.L. & Crenshaw, W. (2007). Substance abuse and mental health among community-dwelling elderly. *International Journal of Geriatric Psychiatry*, 24(9), 1124-1135.
3. Hunt, M.C., Wiechelt, S.A. & Merrylye, R. (2008). Predicting the substance-abuse treatment needs of an aging population. *American Journal of Public Health*, 45(2), 236-245. PMID: PMC9162292 Hunt, M.C., Newlin, D.B. & Fishbein, D. (2009). Brain imaging in methamphetamine abusers across the life-span. *Gerontology*, 46(3), 122-145.



## **B. Positions and Honors**

### **Positions and Employment**

1998-2000	Fellow, Division of Intramural Research, National Institute of Drug Abuse, Bethesda, MD
2000-2002	Lecturer, Department of Psychology, Middlebury College, Middlebury, VT
2001-	Consultant, Coastal Psychological Services, San Francisco, CA
2002-2005	Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology, Washington University, St. Louis, MO
2007-	Associate Professor, Department of Psychology, Washington University, St. Louis, MO

### **Other Experience and Professional Memberships**

1995-	Member, American Psychological Association
1998-	Member, Gerontological Society of America
1998-	Member, American Geriatrics Society
2000-	Associate Editor, Psychology and Aging
2003-	Board of Advisors, Senior Services of Eastern Missouri
2003-05	NIH Peer Review Committee: Psychobiology of Aging, ad hoc reviewer
2007-11	NIH Risk, Adult Addictions Study Section, members

### **Honors**

2003	Outstanding Young Faculty Award, Washington University, St. Louis, MO
2004	Excellence in Teaching, Washington University, St. Louis, MO
2009	Award for Best in Interdisciplinary Ethnography, International Ethnographic Society

## **C. Contribution to Science**

1. My early publications directly addressed the fact that substance abuse is often overlooked in older adults. However, because many older adults were raised during an era of increased drug and alcohol use, there are reasons to believe that this will become an increasing issue as the population ages. These publications found that older adults appear in a variety of primary care settings or seek mental health providers to deal with emerging addiction problems. These publications document this emerging problem but guide primary care providers and geriatric mental health providers to recognize symptoms, assess the nature of the problem and apply the necessary interventions. By providing evidence and simple clinical approaches, this body of work has changed the standards of care for addicted older adults and will continue to provide assistance in relevant medical settings well into the future. I served as the primary investigator or co-investigator in all of these studies.
  - a. Gryczynski, J., Shaft, B.M., Merrylye, R., & Hunt, M.C. (2002). Community based participatory research with late-life addicts. *American Journal of Alcohol and Drug Abuse*, 15(3), 222-238.
  - b. Shaft, B.M., Hunt, M.C., Merrylye, R., & Venturi, R. (2003). Policy implications of genetic transmission of alcohol and drug abuse in female nonusers. *International Journal of Drug Policy*, 30(5), 46-58.
  - c. Hunt, M.C., Marks, A.E., Shaft, B.M., Merrylye, R., & Jensen, J.L. (2004). Early-life family and community characteristics and late-life substance abuse. *Journal of Applied Gerontology*, 28(2), 26-37.
  - d. Hunt, M.C., Marks, A.E., Venturi, R., Crenshaw, W. & Ratonian, A. (2007). Community-based intervention strategies for reducing alcohol and drug abuse in the elderly. *Addiction*, 104(9), 1436-1606. PMID: PMC9000292
2. In addition to the contributions described above, with a team of collaborators, I directly documented the effectiveness of various intervention models for older substance abusers and demonstrated the importance of social support networks. These studies emphasized contextual factors in the etiology and maintenance of addictive disorders and the disruptive potential of networks in substance abuse treatment. This body of work also discusses the prevalence of alcohol, amphetamine, and opioid abuse in older adults and how networking approaches can be used to mitigate the effects of these disorders.

