

## NIH MULTIPLE PI AWARDS

In support of team science projects, in February 2007 the National Institutes of Health (NIH) began accepting grant applications that identify more than one Principal Investigator (PI) (<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-07-017.html>).

### LEADERSHIP PLAN:

Applications that involve more than one PI must include a Leadership Plan that describes the roles, responsibilities, and working relationship of the identified PIs. The Leadership Plan should include the following:

- 1) Lead PI designation
- 2) Role of lead PI and other named PIs with definition of responsibilities/duties. The **contact PI** is the first PI listed.
- 3) Description of governance and organizational structure of the leadership team and research project, including communication plans, process for making decisions on scientific direction and procedures for resolving conflicts.
- 4) Roles and administrative, technical and scientific responsibilities for the project or program should be delineated for the PIs and other collaborators.
- 5) Process for making decisions on scientific direction and allocating resources and resolving disputes
- 6) Fiscal roles and management
- 7) Data sharing issues

### APPROVALS:

All PI's will sign the agreed upon Leadership Plan. In addition, Leadership Plans that involve more than one department within UTHSC-H will be approved by the Chairs; those that involve more than one school within UTHSC-H will be approved by the Deans. Finally the Leadership Plan will be reviewed and approved by the Executive Vice President (EVP) for Research, Dr. Peter Davies, **one month prior** to the agency deadline.

Approval and sign-off by institutional officials is required for all multiple PI grants that involve multiple institutions.

### CONFLICT RESOLUTION:

If a dispute cannot be resolved via the Leadership Plan, conflict resolution should proceed as follows: 1) Chair resolves for PIs within the same department; 2) Chairs resolve for PIs within the same school; and 3) Deans resolve for PIs within different schools. For multi-institutional grants, dispute resolution is the responsibility of the EVP for Research at each institution.