

The Neurobiology Commission of the International League Against Epilepsy is developing a project, named Training & Beyond (<http://www.ilae.org/Commission/neurobio/about.cfm>) aimed at promoting seeding research activities (either basic or diagnostic) in areas of the world that are economically less privileged.

The San Servolo (and LASSE) Courses have been proven to be ideal venues to test research project on region-specific epilepsy issues. These projects developed during the Courses represent a reservoir of ideas that deserve to be elaborated and possibly funded.

Within this framework we decided to update on any potential source of funding we are aware of that may be of interest. The US Fogarty International Center of NIH has recently published a call that may be worth to consider. Here are the details:

The Fogarty International Center of the U.S. National Institutes of Health has announced its renewal of the Global Brain Disorders Research. This program supports collaborative research involving institutions in low income countries with upper income countries as defined by the World Bank (<http://data.worldbank.org/about/country-and-lending-groups>) Although the program is intended to support outstanding research, another major goal of the "Global Brain and Nervous System Disorders Research across the Lifespan" program is to develop collaborative research and capacity building projects that are relevant to lower and lower middle income countries on brain and nervous system disorders throughout life. Grant recipients are expected to develop innovative, collaborative research programs that contribute to the long-term goal of building sustainable research capacity in nervous system function and nervous system impairment.

There are two grant categories. The R21 series supports the planning of projects and the development of essential preliminary data. These grants are for a maximum of \$275,000 over two years. The R01 series is for a 5 year term for projects that will likely provide answers to important problems. The projects may be laboratory, translational, clinical or epidemiological. An initial R21 is almost always required unless there is already a well-established and productive collaboration among the partner institutions. The grants require the involvement of an institution from an upper or upper middle income countries and an institution from a lower or lower middle income nation.

For more details about the program please consult its website: <http://www.fic.nih.gov/programs/Pages/brain-disorders.aspx>

The application can discuss the possibility of ILAE involvement in the application either as partner or as associate member.

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