

**From:** "research.commission@sl.ethz.ch" <research.commission@sl.ethz.ch>  
**To:** adrianocavalcanti@canbiotechnems.com  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 31, 2009 10:44 AM  
**Subject:** Research proposal by Bradley Nelson 'Micro-Robotics and Nano-Medicine' CH1-01

Dear Prof. Cavalcanti

At ETH Zurich we have a funding program that is intended to promote high-risk, innovative research which crosses disciplinary and administrative boundaries.

The program provides a limited amount of seed money (up to 750'000 Swiss Francs over three years) for explorative projects on a competitive basis. The application procedure is unbureaucratic: the concepts and expectations must be explained in only 10 pages. A limited number of supplementary documents (e.g. the CV's of the applicants) may be attached to the application. Further information on our Collaborative, Highly Interdisciplinary Research Projects - stage 1 (CHIRP1) can be found on [www.ethgrants.ethz.ch](http://www.ethgrants.ethz.ch).

Attached to this email is a grant application submitted within the CHIRP1 program. As an expert in the proposed field of research, we seek your assessment on the application. You will find an explanation of the application structure and our guidelines for referees below.

We would very much appreciate receiving your reply in English or German by April 28th, 2009 (unformatted text or MS Word). Please use [research.commission@sl.ethz.ch](mailto:research.commission@sl.ethz.ch) as reply address. As your review will be treated confidentially, we ask you not to refer to your person or your institution in the review. Following standard academic practice, ETH requests that reviewers treat submitted research grant applications confidentially. We also request that reviewers disclose relationships with applicants that could be viewed as potential conflicts of interest.

Unfortunately, due to the large number of research proposals we receive it is not possible for us to remunerate you for your efforts, although they are much appreciated. Please inform us as soon as possible if you cannot review the proposal within the requested time.

Thank you very much for your efforts and assistance.

L. Reinhard  
Executive Secretary, ETH Zurich Research Commission  
<http://www.vpf.ethz.ch/people/reinhardl>

## DOCUMENT STRUCTURE

The attached zip file contains the proposal cover sheet and all attachments in Adobe PDF format. A typical proposal comprises:

- A01\_CoverSheet.pdf (basic information)
- A02\_Costs\_CHIRP1.pdf (financial requirements)
- A03\_Science\_CHIRP1.pdf (scientific information)
- A04\_CVs.pdf (CV's of the PI and other key participants)
- A05\_Quotations.pdf (price quotes for capital items, only if requested)

## GUIDELINES FOR REFEREES

The following considerations are regarded as important by the ETH Research Commission:

1. The applicants
  - 1.1 Achievements made by the applicants in the research field(s) of the proposed project
  - 1.2 Competence for the project
2. Scientific content and plans of research
  - 2.1 Originality and significance of the project
  - 2.2 Suitability of proposed procedures
  - 2.3 Chances of success
  - 2.4 Difficulties to be expected
  - 2.5 Added value of the proposed interdisciplinary collaboration
  - 2.6 Potential importance, impact and innovation potential of the project
3. Requested resources
  - 3.1 Suitability of staff and/or students to be funded by the project
  - 3.2 Suitability of budget for salaries, equipment, consumables, travel, etc.
4. Overall classification
  - A outstanding: should be supported even in times of austerity
  - B very good: should be supported
  - C good: support only if sufficient funds are available
  - D reject