

## 6. Call for Proposals to Enhance Translation now open

**Deadline: January 28th, 2021**

Are you investigating basic mechanisms of disease? Are you sitting on a new technology or potential pharmacotherapy with clinical potential, yet the developmental know-how is lacking? Why not let the SPARK FLI program enhance the translatability of your innovative technology!

### Our Concept

The current success rate of translating novel scientific finding into new diagnostics, medical devices or therapies is disappointingly less than <5% at academic institution across the globe. Causes are numerous including the erratic selection of promising projects, the high degree of project risk and minimal attention to intellectual property. The SPARK FLI program is designed to advance projects with high potential impact, addressing critical unmet medical needs for any indication.

**We offer you advisory, financial and personnel support.** This program is based on the highly successful “SPARK Stanford” program at (<http://sparkmed.stanford.edu/>), which has achieved a translational success rate of >50%, through education, mentorship, advising and milestone based funding.

### Your Benefit

- Funds to de-risk your project (up to 50K€/year/project up to 2 years)\*
- Advice from SPARK advisory board, consisting of experts with translational experience
- Mentored project management support
- Establish defensible Intellectual Property
- Learn what translation is all about
- Get education on drug and diagnostic development
- Carry your project across the Valley of Death (aka the translation Gap or Finance Gap)
- Be a member of the SPARK Global network
- Gain access to investors and experts on commercialization

### How to apply

**Step 1:** Use the application form available and submit a two-page application of your proposed therapy or diagnostic that addresses an **unmet medical need** and **utilizes a novel approach** for any indication. Send the application by **January 28th, 2021** to [spark@leibniz-fli.de](mailto:spark@leibniz-fli.de)

**Step 2:** pitch your project to our external SPARK Advisory Board on **February 18th 2021**.

**Step 3:** Selected projects will receive guidance, milestone-dependent funding\* covering consumables necessary for granted projects and **practical support with the help of two well trained technicians\***.

\*only employees of FLI are eligible to receive FLI-funding

### Eligible

All Employees of the Leibniz Institute on Aging—Fritz Lipmann Institute (FLI) are eligible to apply for SPARK-support.

This year, the SPARK FLI –Program is also open for external researchers from Universities and non-university research institutes.

If you are interested in pitching your project in front of our advisory board and get direct feedback and mentoring for your project during regular meetings, contact SPARK FLI (Sonja Schätzlein) or your local Technology Transfer Office.

We are very much looking forward to your application.

### Contact

Sonja Schätzlein ([Sonja.Schaetzlein@leibniz-fli.de](mailto:Sonja.Schaetzlein@leibniz-fli.de))

Deadline: **January 28th, 2021**

Submit to: **[spark@leibniz-fli.de](mailto:spark@leibniz-fli.de)**

Evaluation: **Feb. 18th, 2021 (16:00-19:00 CET)**