The National Institute on Aging-supported Johns Hopkins Claude D. Pepper Older Americans Independence Center (OAIC; https://coah.jhu.edu/oaic/) is soliciting Letters of Intent (LOI) for scientific projects related to physical frailty in older adults. The goals of these proposals should be to elucidate the etiology of frailty, develop interventions or treatments for frailty, or develop methodologies to better study physical frailty in older Americans. Proposals leveraging large databases to evaluate inflammatory etiological pathways as well as modern biomarkers for frailty, advancing translation of frailty concepts or measures for improved clinical care and management, technology focused on the treatment / management of frailty, or addressing health equity concerning frailty in older adults are particularly welcome. Possible mechanisms for funding as listed below:

- **Research Education Core Award** (max $40K), which supports junior faculty (without prior NIH grant funding as PI) conducting a frailty-related research project and engaging in mentored career development activities
- **Pilot / Exploratory Studies Core Award** (max $30K), which supports faculty conducting a frailty-related research project

In addition to these funds, awardees will have access to biostatistical/analytical, molecular measurement, and clinical translational core support.

**LOI Submission Process:**

The LOI should be targeted to one of the awards described above, be up to 2 pages in length, and include the following components: 1) brief summary and study aims; 2) statement of significance to the field of frailty research; 3) brief summary of research, study design, and data analysis approach; and 4) for junior faculty applicants, a named mentor and brief overview of proposed career development activities. LOIs and an NIH style Biosketch should be submitted as either Word or PDF documents to the OAIC Administrator, Brian Buta, bbuta@jhu.edu, by April 1, 2022.

**Review process and next steps:**

LOIs will be reviewed in early April 2022. Selected projects will be invited to submit full project proposals, due by May 1, 2022. Detailed information on full proposal requirements will be provided at that time. The award period for funded applications will be July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023. We welcome the opportunity to discuss the suitability and relevance of proposed scientific projects ahead of the LOI deadline. Please direct questions to bbuta@jhu.edu.