

**By Claudia Lutz and Gene Robinson**

**“A Song for the Common Fund in Year Ten”**

**To the tune of: “With a little help from my friends” by the Beatles**

What would you think if I asked you to fund  
A consortium to cure all disease  
Read my proposal, it's cutting-edge work  
It's high-risk, but the goal's sure to please  
We'll get by with the Common Fund as our friend  
We'll aim high and set the world on the mend  
Going to try, we know our work will transcend

Could we get a grant from NIAID?  
(It looks great but we can't do it alone)  
NHGRI, please do this for me  
(It's too broad for us to fund on our own)  
We'll get by with the Common Fund as our friend  
We'll aim high and set the world on the mend  
Going to try, we know our work will transcend

(Do we need a new funding body?)  
We just need inter-institute love  
(Could it be any body?)  
We just need strategic funds from above

(Can you state goals both defined and unique?)  
Yes, I'm certain that we'll meet them on time  
(Can PIs share expertise and techniques?)  
We'll all tell you this is “ours”, not “mine”  
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