The Medical Foundation Research Grants Division

Where Science and Philanthropy Converge to Fund Medical Discoveries

To Clients and the Biomedical Research Community

Sally McNagny, M.D., M.P.H.

Welcome! The Medical Research Grants Division works with private individuals, family foundations, bank trusts and corporations to design customized grant programs that fund outstanding medical and public policy research. By bringing together the vision of our clients and the commitment of our scientific reviewers, we support medical discoveries that may improve the lives of millions. This newsletter highlights the accomplishments of our clients' nine grant programs and the exceptional award recipients who received funding this year.

This past year has been an eventful one. We are pleased to announce the launch of the Klarman Family Foundation Grants Program in Eating Disorders Research. The Klarman Family Foundation is addressing an urgent need to support medical research that will unlock the biologic causes of anorexia, bulimia and binge eating disorder. Distributing up to $2 million annually, this new Program will be the largest nonfederal source of funding in eating disorders research.

In the past six years, our clients' programs awarded more than $50 million to investigators in the United States and Europe. To streamline this grantmaking process for both applicants and scientific reviewers, the Grants Division recently established an online web-based grant submission and evaluation process. Over time, this paperless system will allow each of our programs to accept applications and reviews electronically.

Our clients also engage us to evaluate program outcomes and effectiveness. In 2007, we produced an in-depth review of career and research achievements of the Smith Family New Investigator Awards Program. More than 80% of the Award Recipients successfully secured NIH R01 funding following their Smith Family Awards as well as published highly cited research papers. With citation rates comparable to some of the top-cited scientists in the world, the Smith Family Foundation New Investigators have already contributed to medical research discoveries and will continue to be productive throughout their careers.

As 2007 comes to a close, let me take this opportunity to thank the 114 senior scientists who have donated their time to serve on our Scientific Review Committees as well as the many other experts who have provided advice and guidance throughout the year.

Sally E. McNagny, MD, MPH

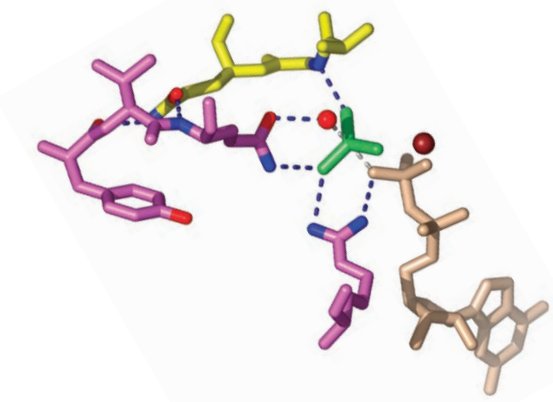
Sally E. McNagny, M.D., M.P.H.
Vice President

About The Medical Foundation

The Medical Foundation is a nonprofit, public health and medical research funding organization whose mission is to help people live healthier lives through prevention, health promotion and support of medical research. On September 24, 2007, the Foundation celebrated its 50th anniversary with a gala event at the Kennedy Presidential Library. **Walter Guralnick, D.M.D.**, Chair of the Foundation's Board, welcomed over 275 attendees and **Ray Considine**, the Foundation's President, presented highlights of the organization's history. United States Senator Edward M. Kennedy congratulated The Medical Foundation for its steadfast commitment to improving community health and supporting outstanding medical research.

The Community Health Division, led by **Steve Ridini, Ed.D.**, works in partnerships with cities, neighborhood coalitions and nonprofit organizations to identify and address the public health needs of individuals and communities.

The Medical Research Grants Division is featured in this newsletter. The Grants Division is advised by a Medical Foundation Board Committee chaired by **Gordon H. Williams, M.D.**, Professor of Medicine, Harvard Medical School and the Brigham and Women's Hospital.



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Medical Research Grants Division
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The Medical Research Grants Division

Experience. Since 1957, foundations, bank trusts and individuals have engaged us to create grant programs that fund innovative research to accelerate medical discoveries.

Expertise. More than 100 internationally recognized scientists from across the United States and Europe serve on ten Scientific Review Committees, providing critical and unbiased evaluations of all grant submissions and research progress reports.

Impact. Each year, our clients' programs award more than $10 million to support close to 120 national and international grant recipients, maximizing the impact of every dollar by funding only the most outstanding scientists and innovative research projects.

Confidence. Representing a tradition of the highest excellence, we have earned the respect of both the philanthropic and scientific communities.

Our Services. We write guidelines and announce funding opportunities, establish scientific review committees, process applications, distribute funds, collect annual Progress and Fiscal Reports from award recipients for scientific review, organize scientific meetings and evaluate programs. Learn more about our services and grant programs at www.tmfnet.org.

The Medical Foundation Board of Directors

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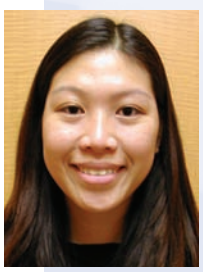
Sally E. McNagny, M.D., M.P.H., F.A.C.P., Vice President 617.279.2240, ext. 704, smcnagny@tmfnet.org
Dr. McNagny received a B.S. in Biology from Stanford University, an M.D. and M.P.H. from Harvard, and completed her medical residency at the Brigham and Women's Hospital in 1988. She served on the faculty at Emory University School of Medicine for 12 years, where she was Principal Investigator of the N.I.H. Women's Health Initiative and other clinical research trials in the field of postmenopausal hormone replacement therapy. She also conducted health services research studies in access to care, high blood pressure management and smoking cessation. Currently, Dr. McNagny is a board member of the Health Research Alliance, a membership organization of non-governmental funders of medical research and training which awards more than $1.3 billion annually. She oversees the Division and also serves on the faculty at Harvard Medical School.

Gay Lockwood, M.S.W. Senior Program Officer 617.279.2240, ext. 702, glockwood@tmfnet.org
Ms. Lockwood manages a variety of grant programs, oversees annual scientific poster sessions and works with award recipients throughout the funding cycle to monitor their research progress and fiscal obligations. She brings organizational, resource and program management skills from her prior experience in both diplomatic and healthcare settings. Her expertise in building and maintaining relationships with academic research institutions and senior scientists ensures that programs are effectively and efficiently administered.

Jeanne Brown, Program Officer 617.279.2240, ext. 709, jbrown@tmfnet.org
Ms. Brown's experience is in project management, operations management and client relations in both healthcare and academic settings. She applies her knowledge and best practices in the management of several programs including one international grantmaking program. Ms. Brown specializes in building processes for the delivery of efficient and complete grantmaking services for our clients. She brings core skills such as planning, budget management and problem solving to the team.



Linda Lam, Program Officer 617.279.2240, ext. 710, LLam@tmfnet.org
Ms. Lam is trained in business administration with experience in database development and management. In addition to managing several grant programs, she organizes Scientific Review Committee meetings in New York City as well as two-day scientific meetings in Boston. Ms. Lam updates the international distribution list that is used to alert institutions of funding opportunities. She also designs systems to track grant recipients throughout their funding period. She is instrumental in overseeing the Division web pages as well as working with the Finance Department to manage award payments.

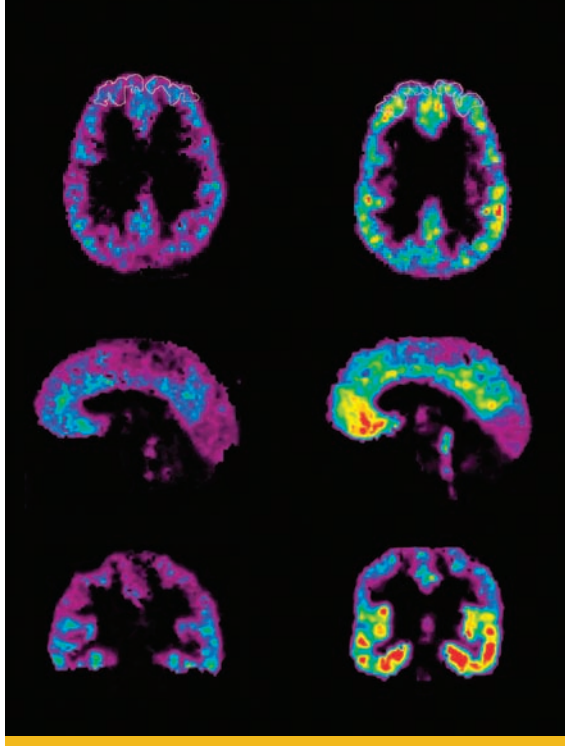
Kira Wilke, Grants Associate 617.279.2240, ext. 320, kwilke@tmfnet.org
Ms. Wilke is the newest member of the Division. She is instrumental in the design, operation and maintenance of the online grant application process. She ensures that the software for online applications and online reviews coordinates with the current database and responds to the needs of clients, applicants and reviewers. Ms. Wilke also provides administrative support for all of our programs. She has experience in community and health-related programs and is studying part-time at Boston University for her M.P.H.

Other Professional Staff Drawing from a talented 71-member staff at The Medical Foundation, the Medical Research Grants Division is assisted by Finance, Information Technology, Communications and Operations professionals.

Klarman Family Foundation Grants Program in Eating Disorders Research

a program of the Klarman Family Foundation

THE KLARMAN FAMILY FOUNDATION



In 2007, the Klarman Family Foundation contracted with The Medical Foundation to create a new grants program to support eating disorders research. Guided by growing evidence that pointed to a strong genetic component to these disorders, the Klarman Trustees recognized the urgent need to fund scientific investigation of the biologic causes of anorexia nervosa, bulimia nervosa and binge eating disorder. Their short-term goal is to "grow the field" by attracting outstanding scientists from related disciplines to focus their attention on eating disorders research. The Program's long term goal is to accelerate progress in developing effective treatments for these disorders.

The Medical Foundation announced the Klarman Family Foundation Program in October 2007 to academic and research institutions throughout the United States. Leading scientists in fields that include cell biology, genetics, neuroscience, psychiatry and brain imaging were also notified by email and encouraged to apply. Research proposals may involve molecular genetic analysis of relevant neural circuit assembly and function; animal models created by genetically altering neural circuits; and brain imaging approaches that identify neurochemical pathways in patients with these disorders. This strategic new funding opportunity has great potential to support medical discoveries that will significantly improve the lives of thousands of patients.

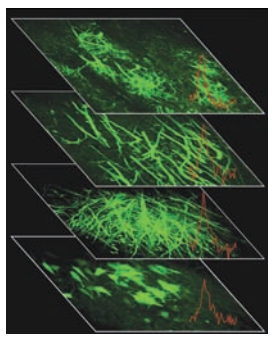
Edward Scolnick, M.D.
Chair, Klarman Family Foundation
Scientific Review Committee

Edward Scolnick, Ph.D. will chair the first Scientific Review Committee of the Klarman Family Foundation Grants Program in Eating Disorders Research. He is Director of the Psychiatry Initiative and the Stanley Center for Psychiatric Research at the Broad Institute of M.I.T. and Harvard where he works closely with Broad scientists in identifying risk genes for bipolar disorder and schizophrenia.

In 2002, Dr. Scolnick stepped down as President of Merck Research Laboratories, after holding Merck's top research post for 17 years. Prior to joining Merck, he worked at the National Cancer Institute where he demonstrated the cellular origin of sarcoma virus oncogenes in mammals and defined specific genes that cause human cancer. Dr. Scolnick also worked at the National Heart Institute where his work defined the stop signals in the genetic code and the biochemical mechanism that produces the stops.

"Although progress in discovering the biologic causes of eating disorders has lagged behind other major psychiatric disorders, scientists are beginning to appreciate significant overlap in genes and neurocircuits that regulate appetite, anxiety and sleep. By understanding the cellular and molecular processes that control these different aspects of behavior, we may be able to design effective treatment strategies for these disorders."

Edward Scolnick, M.D.



Program Officer
Gay Lockwood glockwood@tmfnet.org

Important Dates
Application deadline: 01/10/08
Funding begins: 06/01/08

Program Eligibility
U.S. faculty at not-for-profit research institutions

Geographic Eligibility
U.S.A.

Research Focus
Research with direct relevance to the basic biology of eating disorders

Award
$400,000 over two years

Website
www.tmfnet.org

Scientific Review Committee

Edward Scolnick, M.D. (Chair)
Broad Institute of M.I.T. and Harvard

Cori Bargmann, Ph.D.
Rockefeller University

Evan Deneris, Ph.D.
Case Western Reserve University

Joel K. Elmquist, D.V.M., Ph.D.
UT Southwestern Medical Center

Walter H. Kaye, M.D.
University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine

Eleftheria Maratos-Flier, M.D.
Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center

Emmanuel Mignot, M.D., Ph.D.
Stanford University School of Medicine

Timothy Moran, Ph.D.
Johns Hopkins University

Charles H. Farnsworth Trust Aging Policy Research Fellowship Program and Scholars Program in Aging Policy Research

programs of the Charles H. Farnsworth Trust

Program Officer
Jeanne Brown jbrown@tmfnet.org

Important Dates
Application deadline: 12/13/07
Funding begins: 06/01/08

Program Eligibility
Faculty at Massachusetts academic institutions and Policy Analysts at non-profit organizations

Geographic Eligibility
Massachusetts

Research Focus
Aging policy research with direct relevance to state and local government

Award
One year awards of up to $60,000 each

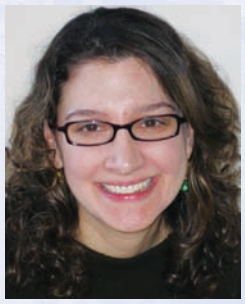
Website
www.tmfnet.org

The Charles H. Farnsworth Trust was established to help older adults live independently and with dignity in their communities. Managed by U.S. Trust, Bank of America Private Wealth Management, funds are used to support low-income housing for older adults in Boston and supplement elder care activities in communities throughout Massachusetts. From 1983 to 2004, a portion of the funds was also used to support medical research relevant to the Trust's mission and 72 grants were awarded. With growing concern of the broader issues beyond medical care that impact the lives of older adults, the Farnsworth Trust elected to launch the Aging Policy Research Fellowship in 2004.

A new focus will be introduced for the 2008 grant cycle to fund aging policy research that will bring additional expertise to the pressing issues associated with growing old. The Charles H. Farnsworth Trust Scholars Program in Aging Policy Research will begin accepting applications in December 2007 to fund established researchers whose work will inform future policy decisions at the local and state level that impact older adults in Massachusetts.

Tara Sussman graduated *magna cum laude* from Brown University in 1998 and completed her Masters of Public Policy (M.P.P.) at Harvard's Kennedy School of Government. After graduating from the Kennedy School, in 2002, Ms. Sussman became a Presidential Management Fellow at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (H.H.S.). She worked for a year in the H.H.S. Budget Office and then spent two years in the H.H.S. Office of Global Health Affairs working on the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief. She entered the Harvard Ph.D. Program in Health Policy in the fall of 2005 with a focus on the politics of health policy.

During her Farnsworth Trust Fellowship, Ms. Sussman will study pharmacists' attitudes toward the Federal Government's prescription drug benefit to Medicare, known as Medicare Part D. The project will analyze a national population of pharmacists through a cross-sectional survey as well as through in-depth interviews with Massachusetts pharmacists. In pursuing these aims, the project's objective is to provide insights into how Part D reforms could benefit different segments of the elderly population and the pharmacies that serve them.



Tara Sussman, M.P.P.
Award Recipient

2007 Award Recipients

Tara Sussman, Ph.D. Candidate
Harvard University

Laila Vehvilainen, Ph.D. Candidate
University of Massachusetts Boston

Kathy Wilson, Ph.D. Candidate
University of Massachusetts Boston

Robert Leet and Clara Guthrie Patterson Trust Postdoctoral Fellowship Program in Brain Circuitry Bank of America, Trustee

a program sponsored by Philanthropic Management Bank of America, Hartford, CT

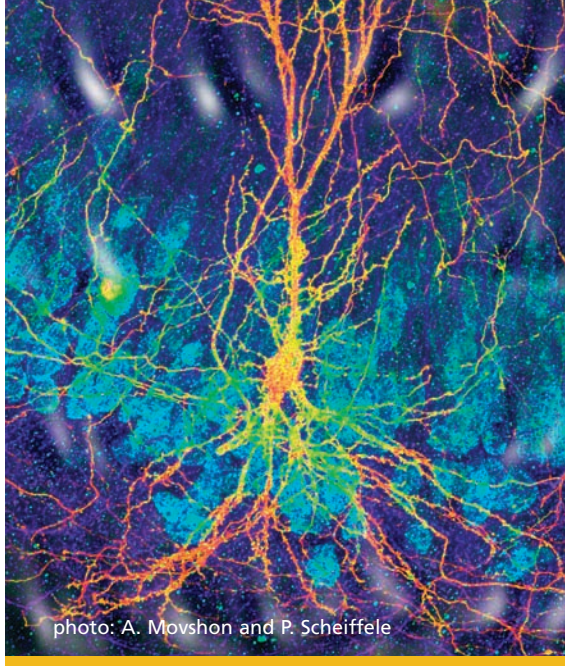


photo: A. Movshon and P. Scheiffele

Program Officer
Linda Lam LLam@tmfnet.org

Important Dates
Application deadline: 09/26/07
Funding begins: 01/15/08

Program Eligibility
Postdoctoral fellows within their first five years of training

Geographic Eligibility
Connecticut, New Jersey and New York

Research Focus
Research with direct relevance to brain circuitry

Award
Up to ten two-year fellowships ranging from $89,000–$104,000

Website
www.tmfnet.org

The Robert Leet and Clara Guthrie Patterson Trust was created to improve healthcare through support of medical research. Since 1980, the Trust has made awards to outstanding research scientists in a broad range of disciplines. In 2005, Bank of America contracted with The Medical Foundation to create a new grants program for the support of postdoctoral biomedical researchers and restrict the Patterson Trust awards to investigators in brain (neural) circuitry.

Neural circuitry focuses on the relationship between the intricate organization of brain wiring and the emergence of behavior, both normal and abnormal. Thus, neural circuits must, in some way, account for high-level functions such as memory, self-awareness, language, joy and anger. Research conducted by Patterson Trust Fellows may help to clarify the causes of diseases that affect millions, including schizophrenia, mood disorders, degenerative brain disorders, epilepsy, and autism.

2007 Award Recipients

Fatiha Boukhtouche, Ph.D.
Columbia University Medical Center

Dylan Clyne, Ph.D.
Yale University School of Medicine

Ben Collins, Ph.D.
New York University

Heather Dean, Ph.D.
New York University

Daniel Dombeck, Ph.D.
Princeton University

Kevin Franks, Ph.D.
Columbia University

Adam Hantman, Ph.D.
Columbia University

Susana Lima, Ph.D.
Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory

Shin Nagayama, Ph.D.
Yale University

Anne-Marie Oswald, Ph.D.
New York University

Eva Pastalkova, Ph.D.
Rutgers University

Kira Poskanzer, Ph.D.
Columbia University

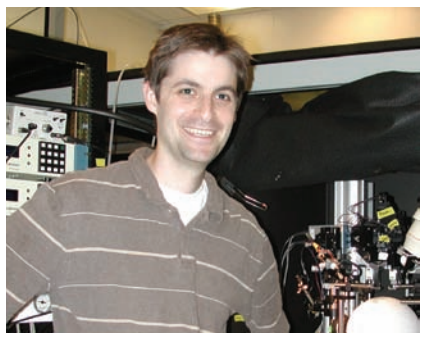
Jonathan Touryan, Ph.D.
Yale University School of Medicine

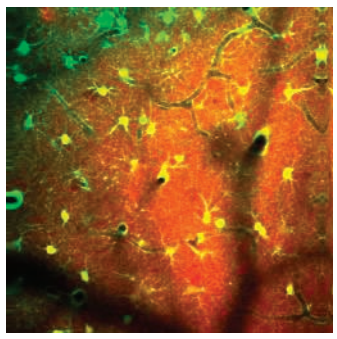
Chun-I Yeh, Ph.D.
New York University

Manuel Zimmer, Ph.D.
The Rockefeller University

Dr. Daniel Dombeck studied physics at the University of Illinois where he engaged in lab research in high-energy and solid state physics, and developed a strong interest in biophysics during his last years at Illinois. After completing his Ph.D. in Physics and his initial postdoctoral training at Cornell University, he joined Dr. David Tank's laboratory at Princeton University in 2006 to further his studies on neural systems.

The brains of awake mammals have never been imaged with resolution high enough to see individual cells. A form of microscopy, known as two-photon fluorescence microscopy, has become widely used in the neuroscience community because of its ability to image deep into the brain with high-resolution. This powerful imaging modality has never, until Dr. Dombeck's work, been successfully applied to awake mammals. The technique uses two-photon microscopy to study neural activity at the cellular scale in awake and mobile mice. Dr. Dombeck has successfully recorded the activity of large populations of neurons in the mouse cortex during behaviors such as resting, walking, running and grooming (see image). This technique provides the ability to study forms of neural activity, such as working memory, that are only present in the awake state of the brain.


Daniel Dombeck, Ph.D., Award Recipient


Sensory cortex of an awake mouse

Lymphatic Research Foundation (LRF) Postdoctoral Fellowship Awards and LRF Additional Support Awards for N.I.H. Funded F32 Postdoctoral Fellows

programs of the Lymphatic Research Foundation

LRF
LYMPHATIC
RESEARCH
FOUNDATION

Program Officer
Jeanne Brown jbrown@tmfnet.org

Important Dates
Application deadline for Fellowship: 10/16/07
Application deadline for Additional Support: 01/24/08

LRF Postdoctoral Fellowship Awards

Program Eligibility
Postdoctoral fellows within their first three years of training

Geographic Eligibility
Worldwide

Research Focus
Clinical and basic science research relevant to the lymphatic system

Award
Two-year fellowships ranging from $79,000–$95,000

Website
www.lymphaticresearch.org

The LRF Additional Support Awards fund N.I.H. F32 Fellows working in the United States whose research is relevant to the lymphatic system. These two-year awards are in the amount of $20,000.

Wendy Chaite, Esq., Founder and President of LRF with special guest McKenna Johnson (2007 Gala)

When Wendy Chaite's daughter was born with systemic lymphatic disease and lymphedema, she searched for medical answers and treatment. She was shocked and frustrated by the lack of information and knowledge about the lymphatic system. In 1998, she set out to establish the Lymphatic Research Foundation (LRF) to advance research of the lymphatic system and to find the cause of and cure for lymphatic diseases, lymphedema, and related disorders. In only a few years, the Foundation has created successful alliances with government, especially the National Institutes of Health (NIH); academic institutions; professional associations; and industry. LRF has launched a peer reviewed scientific journal, *Lymphatic Research and Biology*, organized "think tank" conferences at the NIH, and was instrumental in the establishment of an international, biennial Gordon Research Conference Series devoted exclusively to lymphatic biology. As momentum has grown, the scientific community has responded with greater attention to the lymphatic system and the key role it plays in diseases afflicting millions. For instance, researchers have recently linked the lymphatic system to inflammation and auto-immunity that occur in chronic conditions such as asthma and arthritis. In short, advancing the understanding of the lymphatic system is likely to accelerate therapeutics in a host of diseases and conditions including cancer, lymphedema and lymphatic malformations.

In 2007, LRF hosted its first fundraising gala event at Oheka Castle in Huntington, NY. Supporters arrived from the United States and abroad, including, Australia and England to celebrate the accomplishments of LRF and learn more about the importance of lymphatic research and the incredible strides now being made in the field. Twelve-year-old McKenna Johnson of Tennessee spoke at the event about her own experience managing the effects of congenital systemic lymphatic disease.

LRF partnered with The Medical Foundation to create and manage all aspects of the LRF grant programs. The goal of these programs is to expand and strengthen the pool of outstanding junior investigators in the field of lymphatic research. These grants support researchers who have recently received their doctorates, a critical point in career development when young scientists choose their lifelong research focus. Over time, the programs will contribute to future leadership, fostering discoveries that will lead to therapeutic advances.

2006 Award Recipients

Gregory Lam, M.D.
Duke University Medical Center
(N.I.H. Additional Support Award)

Rawad Mounzer, M.D.
Yale University School of Medicine

Zhanna Nepiyushchikh, M.D.
Texas A&M University

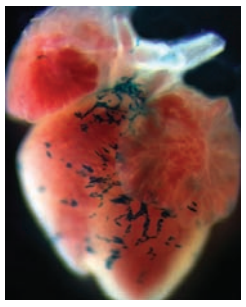
Martin Schneider, M.D.
University of Leuven (Belgium)

R. Sathish Srinivasan, Ph.D.
St. Jude Children's Research Hospital

Dr. Srinivasan received his B.Tech. in Industrial Biotechnology in 1999 from Anna University in Chennai, India. In 2003, he completed his Ph.D. in Molecular and Cellular Biology at Tulane University Medical Center, New Orleans, Louisianna. Dr. Srinivasan is currently a postdoctoral research fellow in the Department of Genetics at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, Memphis, Tennessee, investigating lymphatic developmental biology.

Through the support of LRF's Fellowship Program, Dr. Srinivasan's research settled a century-old debate: In the developing embryo, where do lymphatic vessels originate? After carefully tracing the genetic lineage of the cells that make up the walls of lymphatic vessels, Dr. Srinivasan has determined conclusively that these cells are of venous origin. His findings were highlighted on the cover of the October 1st issue of *Genes and Development*. This discovery of the normal development of the lymphatic system is central to advancing research efforts that may someday prevent lymphatic disorders.

R. Sathish Srinivasan, Ph.D.
Award Recipient



Embryonic lymphatic vasculature (mouse heart)

Hood Foundation Child Health Research Awards Program

a program of the Charles H. Hood Foundation

Charles H. Hood

Harvey P. Hood II

Charles H. Hood II

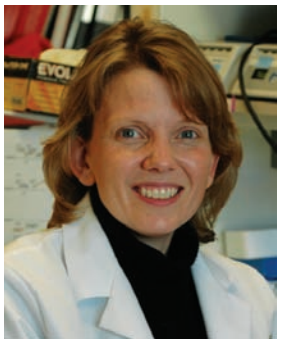
The history of the Charles H. Hood Foundation reveals a century-long tradition of commitment to community and child health. In the late 1800's, Charles H. Hood was a pioneer in the dairy industry, making important advancements in the sanitary production and distribution of milk. By applying pasteurization, his company significantly improved the lives of thousands of New England children. His interest in science and his commitment to the health of New England families inspired his son, Harvey P. Hood II, to formally incorporate the Charles H. Hood Foundation in 1942.

Harvey P. Hood II dedicated the Foundation to improving the health and quality of life of children through grant support of New England-based pediatric researchers. His son, Charles H. Hood II, assumed the presidency of the Foundation in 1974. In its early years, the Child Health Research Awards Program focused on infectious diseases, public health, and training for health professionals. As medical treatments, scientific research and social conditions changed, so too did the Foundation's emphasis shift to chronic illness, cancer and degenerative illnesses.

The program has also shifted to an exclusive focus on investigators within the first five years of their faculty appointment and has funded over 460 scientists. Many of the investigators previously supported by the Foundation have grown into established leaders in pediatric research.

Dr. Fortune received a B.S. in Biology from Yale University, an M.D. from Columbia University and completed her Internal Medicine and Infectious Diseases training at the Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston. In 2006, Dr. Fortune joined the faculty at the Harvard School of Public Health where she focuses on tuberculosis—a devastating infectious disease affecting one-third of the world's population and killing more than two million people annually.

Dr. Fortune's Hood Foundation research project addresses a critical mystery in the fight against tuberculosis: How do tuberculosis bacteria manage to survive inside infected individuals for many years and avoid being killed by the human immune system? Dr. Fortune hypothesizes that these bacteria cleverly produce proteins during the course of infection that block the immune system's ability to recognize and destroy them. Her research will provide new insights into bacterial defense mechanisms that may someday lead to effective treatments for tuberculosis.



Sarah Fortune, M.D.
Award Recipient

2007 Award Recipients

Kate G. Ackerman, M.D.
Brigham and Women's Hospital

Sarah Fortune, M.D.
Harvard School of Public Health

Richard Iain Gregory, Ph.D.
Children's Hospital Boston

Laurel Leslie, M.D., M.P.H.
Tufts-New England Medical Center

Eric Morrow, M.D.
Massachusetts General Hospital

Paula Quatromoni, D.Sc., M.S., R.D.
Sargent College of Health and Rehabilitation Services, Boston University

Tracy Richmond, M.D., M.P.H.
Children's Hospital Boston

Christopher Sassetti, Ph.D.
University of Massachusetts Medical School

Susanne Schlisio, Ph.D.
Dana-Farber Cancer Institute

Yasuyoshi Ueki, M.D., Ph.D.
Harvard School of Dental Medicine

Program Officer
Gay Lockwood glockwood@tmfnet.org

Important Dates
Application deadlines: March and Sept.
Funding begins: July and January

Program Eligibility
Investigators within five years of their first faculty appointment

Geographic Eligibility
New England

Research Focus
Clinical, basic science and health services research relevant to pediatric diseases

Award
Ten awards in each calendar year in the amount of $150,000 over two years

Website
www.tmfnet.org

Goldhirsh Foundation Brain Tumor Research Awards Program

a program of the Goldhirsh Foundation

Bernard Goldhirsh, Founder

The Goldhirsh Foundation was established by Bernard A. Goldhirsh in 2000, shortly after he was diagnosed with brain cancer. He envisioned a grants program that would fund high-risk innovative brain tumor research. Prior to his death in 2003, he directed the Scientific Review Committee to identify those rare scientists who have brilliant ideas as well as a style of "thinking outside the box." Mr. Goldhirsh's own career exemplified this entrepreneurial spirit. He launched two multi-million dollar magazines—*Sail* and *Inc.*, the latter becoming one of the most successful magazines in history.

The Brain Tumor Research Awards Program funds investigators who integrate and translate knowledge in basic research into meaningful clinical progress for patients. Examples of funding areas include oncogenomics and proteomics, genetically engineered models, the discovery and testing of small molecule therapies, unusual drug delivery systems, or improved brain imaging techniques. To date, the Goldhirsh Foundation has awarded $11.5 million to 45 outstanding investigators working in U.S. research institutions.

Program Officer
Linda Lam LLam@goldhirshfoundation.org

Important Dates
Application deadline: 01/16/08
Funding begins: 07/01/08

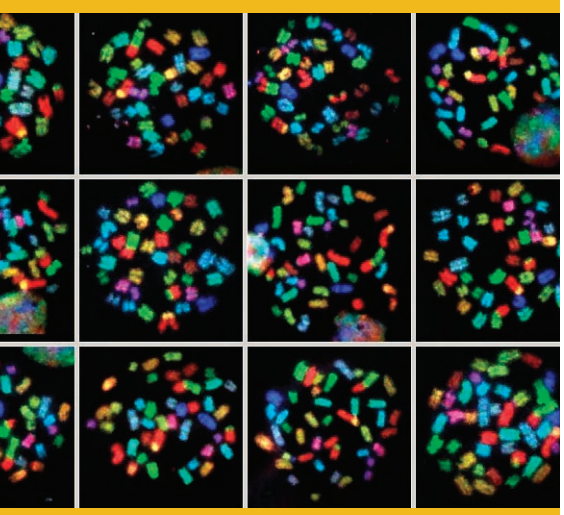
Program Eligibility
Investigators working in not-for-profit research organizations

Geographic Eligibility
United States, Canada and Israel

Research Focus
Clinical and basic science research relevant to brain tumors

Award
Three-year awards ($600,000) and one-year awards ($100,000)

Website
www.goldhirshfoundation.org



Dr. Sarkar obtained his M.B.B.S. (equivalent to M.D.) from Dhaka Medical College, Bangladesh in 1994 and his Ph.D. in Endocrinology and Metabolism from Nagoya University, Japan in 2001. After completing his postdoctoral training at Columbia University in 2003, he joined the Columbia faculty in the Departments of Urology and Pathology.

Complete surgical cure of malignant glioblastoma brain cancer is rarely possible because the tumor is highly invasive and rapidly spreads into surrounding normal brain tissue. Finding an effective treatment that blocks this invasion would dramatically improve patient survival. Dr. Sarkar has discovered specific genes that are involved in tumor invasion that when "turned off," result in halted tumor migration. Successful completion of the proposed studies will significantly extend the mission of the Goldhirsh Foundation by generating novel insights into malignant glioma tumors with potential to develop targeted gene therapeutic approaches for cancer.

Devanand Sarkar
M.B.B.S., Ph.D.
Award Recipient

2007 Award Recipients

Three-Year Award ($600,000)

Ronald DePinho, M.D.
Dana-Farber Cancer Institute

Jeremy Rich, M.D.
Duke University Medical Center

Devanand Sarkar, M.B.B.S., Ph.D.
Columbia University

One-Year Awards ($100,000)

Donald Durden, M.D., Ph.D.
Emory University School of Medicine

Isabelle Germano, M.D.
Mount Sinai School of Medicine

David Sabatini, M.D., Ph.D.
Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research

Khalid Shah, M.Sc., Ph.D.
Massachusetts General Hospital

Irving Weissman, M.D.
Stanford University

David Zagzag, M.D., Ph.D.
New York University

"The Goldhirsh Foundation took the risk to support my innovative clinical trial for patients with malignant gliomablastoma. This kind of research that translates basic laboratory discoveries into clinical trials is critical in finding the cure for malignant brain tumors."

Robert Darnell, M.D., Ph.D., 2006 Award Recipient

Charles A. King Trust Postdoctoral Fellowship Program
Bank of America, Co-Trustee
a program sponsored by Philanthropic Management Bank of America, Boston, MA

The Charles A. King Trust was established to support the "investigation of diseases of human beings, and the alleviation of human suffering through the improved treatment of human diseases." In keeping with these principles, the King Trust today supports postdoctoral fellows in the basic sciences as well as in clinical and health services research. Bank of America, Edward Dane and Lucy West serve as Co-Trustees of the Charles A. King Trust.

Two scientific review committees evaluate all proposal submissions. Since 2000, Deborah Cotton, M.D., M.P.H., Professor of Medicine and Epidemiology at Boston University School of Medicine and School of Public Health, has served on the Clinical/Health Services Research Committee and assumed the role of Chair in 2005. H. Robert Horvitz, Ph.D. is beginning his second year as Chair of the Basic Science Committee. He is Professor of Biology at M.I.T., a Howard Hughes Medical Investigator and a 2002 Nobel Laureate in Physiology or Medicine.

The Medical Foundation Fellowship Program began in 1957 with support from the United Way, the Permanent Charity Fund of Boston (now, the Boston Foundation), the Massachusetts Department of Public Health and private foundations. When the Charles A. King Trust became the major donor in 1979, the program was renamed but has received invaluable support from other contributors (see below). Because of the long-standing commitment of the Charles A. King Trust and others, 714 scientists have received these fellowship awards.

Current and Former Contributors to the Fellowship Program

Alice Willard Dorr Foundation
Bushrod H. Campbell and Adah F. Hall Charity Fund
Charles H. Hood Foundation
Eastern Associated Foundation
Ellison Foundation
First National Bank of Boston, Trustee of Charitable Trust
General Cinema Corporation
The Hyams Foundation
The Harold Whitworth Pierce Charitable Trust
Humane Society of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts
June Rockwell Levy Foundation
Marion L. Decrow Memorial Foundation
Nelson E. Weeks Fund of the Permanent Charity Fund
Theodore Edson Parker Foundation
United Way of Massachusetts Bay

Jennifer Hughes, Ph.D.
Award Recipient
(Basic Science Research)

Dr. Hughes received her B.A. in Biology from the College of the Holy Cross and her Ph.D. in Genetics from Tufts University. She is currently a postdoctoral fellow at the Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research. Dr. Hughes has sequenced the Y chromosome of several primate species. Her pioneering work will allow her and others to study the evolution of the Y chromosome and the genes that reside there. Abnormalities of these genes are responsible for defects in sperm production and infertility that affect millions of men worldwide.

Jaime Murphy, M.D.
Award Recipient
(Clinical Research)

Dr. Murphy received his B.A. from SUNY at Albany in the classical Humanities, his M.D. from the Albert Einstein College of Medicine and completed his medicine residency at New York University Medical Center in 2003. He is currently a fellow in Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine at the Boston University Medical Center. Dr. Murphy's research seeks to identify circulating cells with scar-forming potential in the blood of asthmatics. These cells will be analyzed for their ability to produce the types of proteins found in scar tissue as well as their ability to change into cells noted to accumulate in the airways of asthmatics. These studies may show the first definitive evidence for the role of a circulating cell in the development of asthma, provide novel markers of disease severity and lead to new treatments.

Program Officer
Linda Lam LLam@tmfnet.org

Important Dates
Application deadline: 12/19/07
Funding begins: 07/01/08

Program Eligibility
M.D. and Ph.D. researchers who are pursuing additional training prior to their first faculty appointment

Geographic Eligibility
Massachusetts

Research Focus
Basic science, clinical and health services research

Award
12-15 two-year fellowships; ranging from $86,000–$100,000

Website
www.tmfnet.org

2007 Award Recipients

Briana Burton, Ph.D.
Harvard Medical School

Hak Soo Choi, Ph.D.
Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center

Joern Coers, Ph.D.
Harvard Medical School

Rutao Cui, M.D., Ph.D.
Dana-Farber Cancer Institute

Markus Feuerer, M.D.
Joslin Diabetes Center

Wilhelm Haas, Ph.D.
Harvard Medical School

Yujin Hoshida, M.D., Ph.D.
Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Jennifer Hughes, Ph.D.
Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research

Mary Keebler, M.D.
Massachusetts General Hospital

In-Jung Kim, Ph.D.
Harvard University

Fernando Monje-Casas, Ph.D.
Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Jaime Murphy, M.D.
Boston University Medical Center

Nicolas Preitner, Ph.D.
Harvard Medical School

Miguel Rivera, M.D.
Massachusetts General Hospital

Satoshi Yoshida, Ph.D.
Dana-Farber Cancer Institute

Smith Family New Investigator Awards Program

a program of the Richard and Susan Smith Family Foundation

Program Officer
Gay Lockwood glockwood@tmfnet.org

Important Dates
Application deadline: 09/06/07
Funding begins: 12/01/07

Eligibility
Investigators within two years of their first independent faculty appointment

Geographic Eligibility
Massachusetts, Yale University and Brown University

Research Focus
Basic research in the areas of cancer, cardiovascular disease, diabetes, AIDS and neuroscience

Award
Five to six awards in the amount of $200,000 over two years

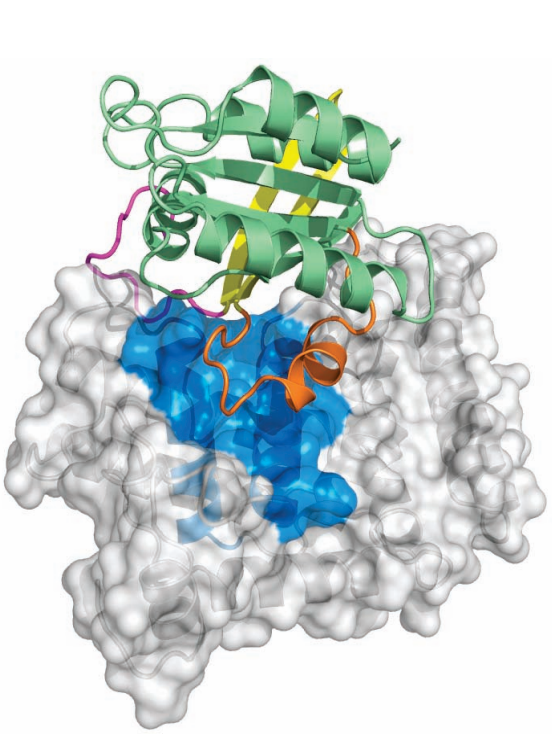
Website
www.tmfnet.org

Richard A. Smith and Susan F. Smith

The Smith Family New Investigator Awards Program was created in 1991 by the Richard and Susan Smith Family Foundation to support the next generation of outstanding researchers whose scientific discoveries will improve patient care. The intent of the award is to provide newly independent faculty the opportunity to demonstrate their creativity and become highly competitive for major national funding. Since 1992, the program has funded 96 New Investigators and provided $13.5 million in research support.

The Smith Family Foundation hosts Scientific Poster Sessions for all award recipients where investigators meet senior scientists and present their research findings. The Foundation has also created a special award to recognize previous New Investigator Award recipients who have made unique contributions in their scientific disciplines. Five investigators have now been recognized with the *Smith Family Award for Excellence in Medical Research.*

The Smith Family Foundation welcomes contributing partners to support the New Investigator Awards Program. Because all costs associated with operating this program are paid by the Smith Family Foundation, every dollar from contributing donors goes directly to support award recipient research. The Jessie B. Cox Charitable Trust (managed by Hemenway & Barnes), the Dolphin Trust, the Richard Allan Barry Fund at the Boston Foundation, the Ludcke Foundation, the Nancy Lurie Marks Family Foundation, and several anonymous donors have provided past and current support.



Dr. Reddien obtained his Ph.D. from M.I.T. in 2002 in the research area of programmed cell death. During his postdoctoral work at the University of Utah, he studied regeneration in planarians and in 2005 established his independent laboratory at M.I.T. and the Whitehead Institute. His work has resulted in the first identification of genes needed for regeneration in planarians and has helped establish planarians as a powerful new system for studies involving stem cells.

Planarians, fresh water flatworms, have the remarkable ability of regenerating whole portions of their bodies. Stem cells drive this regeneration and Dr. Reddien proposes to identify planarian genes that regulate stem cells. Because more than half of planarian genes have human counterparts, his work has direct relevance to the care of cancer patients as many human cancers are the result of uncontrolled stem cell growth.

Peter Reddien, Ph.D.
Award Recipient

2006 Award Recipients

Daniel Chase, Ph.D.
University of Massachusetts Amherst

Matthew Freedman, M.D.
Dana-Farber Cancer Institute

Marc-Jan Gubbels, Ph.D.
Boston College

Peter Reddien, Ph.D.
Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research

Yong-Xu Wang, Ph.D.
University of Massachusetts Medical School

Yong Xiong, Ph.D.
Yale University

Deborah Munroe Noonan Memorial Fund
Bank of America, Trustee

a program sponsored by Philanthropic Management Bank of America, Boston, MA

Bank of America

The Deborah Munroe Noonan Memorial Fund, established in 1947 by Frank M. Noonan in memory of his mother, was created to improve the lives of children who were left crippled by polio. As Trustee of the Fund, Bank of America later broadened the scope to include support of innovative clinical research or demonstration projects whose results may improve the quality of life for children with disabilities. The Noonan Fund plays a critical role in supporting an area of research where funding is scarce. Former award recipients have pioneered interventions that have successfully increased physical activity in children with intellectual disabilities. Other investigators have developed methods for more accurate early diagnosis and treatment of children with attention deficit disorders. Family-centered homecare for children with severe disabilities has also benefited from research project findings. In short, the Noonan Fund has supported 128 outstanding research projects, improving the lives of children locally as well as nationally.

In 2006, the Noonan Fund held its first research symposium. Hosted by Bank of America, former recipients were invited to present their research findings, establish collaborations and celebrate the Noonan Fund's contributions to child health. In addition, potential applicants were invited to attend an in-depth seminar on grant writing offered by Mary Cerreto, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Family Medicine at Boston University and Chair of the Noonan Fund Review Committee.

Dr. Stanish received her Ph.D. in Health and Human Performance from Oregon State University in 1999 with a major in Movement Studies in Disability. She has been an Assistant Professor at the University of Massachusetts (UMass) Boston since 2004 and holds an adjunct appointment at UMass Medical School. Dr. Stanish has published her research in scientific journals including *Adapted Physical Activity Quarterly*, the *American Journal on Mental Retardation*, and *Education and Training in Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities*. She has presented papers at national and international conferences and is on the editorial board of *Adapted Physical Activity Quarterly*.

Dr. Stanish's project aim is to improve quality of life in adolescents with intellectual disabilities (ID) through promoting physical activity and health-related fitness. A peer-guided, community-based exercise program will be pilot tested for feasibility and effectiveness. The exercise program will involve a partnership among adolescents with ID and their peers who will exercise together at two YMCAs. Exercise plans will be developed for participants and peers while ongoing supervision is provided by trained fitness professionals. Measures of physical activity, sedentary behavior, and fitness, as well as perceived enjoyment, barriers, and outcomes of physical activity will be administered throughout the 14-week intervention. To gain insight into the feasibility of the program, the research team will monitor attendance, drop-out, use of YMCAs, and satisfaction of parents, participants, and peers. This project represents a collaborative effort to promote healthy living in adolescents with ID by using positive social support in an inclusive environment.

Heidi Stanish, Ph.D.
Award Recipient

2007 Award Recipients

Deborah Allen, Sc.D.
Massachusetts Consortium for Children with Special Health Care Needs

Nicolas Oreskovic, M.D.
Massachusetts General Hospital

Pixie Plummer, M.D.
Children's Hospital Boston

Anthony Sirignono, M.S.
ARC of Greater Boston, Inc.

Heidi Stanish, Ph.D.
University of Massachusetts Boston

Jeanne Van Cleave, M.D.
Massachusetts General Hospital

Program Officer
Jeanne Brown jbrown@tmfnet.org

Important Dates
Application deadline: 02/14/08
Funding starts: 09/01/08

Program Eligibility
Investigators working in non-profit institutions

Geographic Eligibility
Greater Boston area

Research Focus
Clinical research or demonstration projects relevant to children with disabilities

Award
Five one-year awards in the amount of $75,000

Website
www.tmfnet.org

2007 Scientific Review Committees

Our Scientific Review Committee members donate hundreds of hours each year to read, discuss and ultimately recommend to clients the most outstanding applicants for each grant program. The Medical Foundation greatly appreciates their commitment.

Charles H. Farnsworth Trust Aging Policy Research Fellowship Program

Michael Smyer, Ph.D. (Chair)
Christine Bishop, Ph.D.
Frank Caro, Ph.D.
Barbara Gage, Ph.D.
Ruth Grabel, M.P.A., M.P.H.
Chester Jakubiak, M.A., M.S.W.
Al Norman
Alan Rosenfeld, Ph.D.
David G. Stevenson, Ph.D.

Patterson Trust Fellowship Program in Brain Circuitry

Thomas M. Jessell, Ph.D. (Chair)
J. Anthony Movshon, Ph.D. (Co-Chair)
Gyorgy Buzsaki, M.D., Ph.D.
Pasko Rakic, M.D., Ph.D.
Harvey A. Swadlow, Ph.D.
David W. Tank, Ph.D.

Lymphatic Research Foundation Awards Programs

Thomas Glover, Ph.D. (Chair)
Michael Detmar, M.D.
Robert F. Mattrey, M.D.
Guillermo Oliver, Ph.D.
Miheala Skobe, Ph.D.
Melody Swartz, Ph.D.
Miikka Vikkula, M.D., Ph.D.
David Zawieja, Ph.D.

Charles H. Hood Foundation Child Health Research Awards Program

Charlotte M. Boney, M.D. (Chair)
Howard Bauchner, M.D.
David R. Beier, M.D., Ph.D.
Jeffrey R. Gruen, M.D.
Peter Newburger, M.D.
Scott A. Rivkees, M.D.
Robert Sege, M.D., Ph.D.
Kevin Staley, M.D.
John L. Sullivan, M.D.
Dale T. Umetsu, M.D., Ph.D.
Patrick M. Vivier, M.D., Ph.D.

Goldhirsh Foundation Brain Tumor Research Awards Program

Webster K. Cavenee, Ph.D. (Chair)
E. Antonio Chiocca, M.D. Ph.D.
Paul B. Fisher, Ph.D.
David H. Gutmann, M.D., Ph.D.
Linda M. Liau, M.D., Ph.D.
Victor Ling, Ph.D.
Martin G. Pomper, M.D., Ph.D.
Scott R. VandenBerg, M.D., Ph.D.
George Yancopoulos, M.D., Ph.D.
W. K. Alfred Yung, M.D.

Charles A. King Trust Postdoctoral Fellowship Program (Basic Science Research)

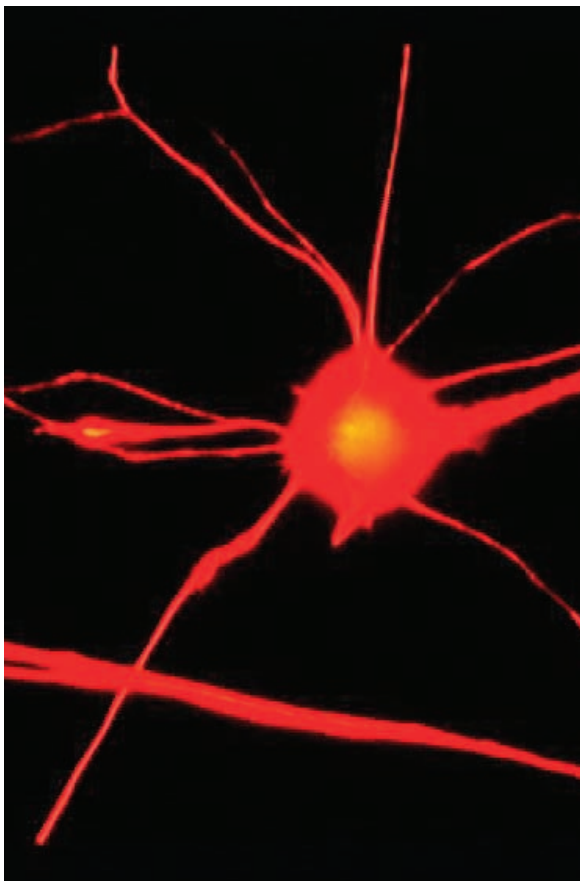
H. Robert Horvitz, Ph.D. (Chair)
Angelika Amon, Ph.D.
Myles A. Brown, M.D.
Brent Cochran, Ph.D.
Roger J. Davis, Ph.D., F. R. S.
Bruce Demple, Ph.D.
Catherine Dulac, Ph.D.
Michale Fee, Ph.D.
Ulla Hansen, Ph.D.
Daniel N. Hebert, Ph.D.
Philip W. Hinds, Ph.D.
Brigitte Huber, Ph.D.
Barbara Kahn, M.D.
Joshua M. Kaplan, Ph.D.
Eve Marder, Ph.D.
Ann Marshak-Rothstein, Ph.D.
Andrew P. McMahon, Ph.D.
Danesh Moazed, Ph.D.
Mary-Lou Pardue, Ph.D.
Craig Peterson, Ph.D.
Joel D. Richter, Ph.D.
Dagmar Ringe, Ph.D.
Thomas Schwarz, Ph.D.
Jonathan G. Seidman, Ph.D.
Piali Sengupta, Ph.D.
Michael Starnbach, Ph.D.
Matthew A. Wilson, Ph.D.
Fred Winston, Ph.D.
Phillip D. Zamore, Ph.D.

Charles A. King Trust Postdoctoral Fellowship Program (Clinical and Health Services Research)

Deborah Cotton M.D., M.P.H. (Chair)
Walter Guralnick, D.M.D.
C. Robert Horsburgh, Jr., M.D., M.U.S.
Gordon Huggins, M.D.
David M. Kent, M.D., M.S.
E. Greg Koski, Ph.D., M.D.
E. John Orav, Ph.D.
Chris C. Streeter, M.D.

Smith Family New Investigator Awards Program

Ed Harlow, Ph.D. (Chair)
Joseph Avruch, M.D.
Richard A. Cohen, M.D.
Michael Czech, Ph.D.
George Daley, M.D., Ph.D.
Douglas V. Faller, Ph.D., M.D.
Gordon Huggins, M.D.
Richard Karas, M.D., Ph.D.
George L. King, M.D.
Jacqueline Lees, Ph.D.
Judy Lieberman, M.D., Ph.D.
Jeffrey D. Macklis, M.D., D. HST
Michael E. Mendelsohn, M.D.
Kenneth Rock, M.D.
Erik Selsing, Ph.D.
Yang Shi, Ph.D.
Li-Huei Tsai, Ph.D.
Kai Wucherpfennig, M.D., Ph.D.

Deborah Munroe Noonan Memorial Fund

Mary C. Cerreto, Ph.D. (Chair)
Allen C. Crocker, M.D.
Helene Dumas, M.S., P.T.
Rani Elwy, Ph.D.
Marji Erickson Warfield, Ph.D.
Linda Grant, M.D., M.P.H.
Robert A. Hoch, M.D., M.P.H.
James M. Perrin, M.D., FAAP
Richard Robison, D.Min.