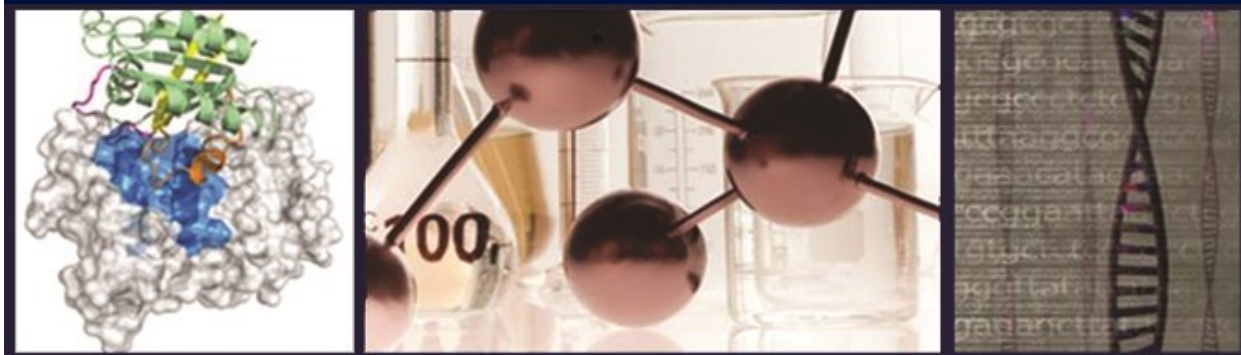


Smith Family Foundation: Odyssey Award

A program of the Richard and Susan Smith Family Foundation



Alumni Directory

2018 - 2024

The Richard and Susan Smith Family Foundation is committed to effecting permanent positive change in the lives of the residents of Greater Boston, particularly individuals and families in economically disadvantaged communities. Today, three generations of the Smith family oversee the Foundation, stewarding approximately \$15 million annually in grants aimed at promoting greater health, educational attainment, and economic mobility. In the area of health, the Foundation supports the advancement of biomedical research and the expansion of access to high-quality health care at safety net institutions serving low-income individuals and communities of Greater Boston.

The Smith Family Foundation: Odyssey Award was created in 2017 to fuel creativity and innovation in junior investigators in the basic sciences. The Award supports the pursuit of high impact ideas to generate breakthroughs and drive new directions in biomedical research. The Award funds high-risk, high-reward pilot projects solicited from the brightest junior faculty in the region. The Awards are currently in the amount of \$400,000 over two years.

Since 2018, the Smith Family Foundation: Odyssey Award has helped launch the careers of 37 outstanding scientists with support totaling \$12.1 million.

The following is a listing of all Award Recipients in alphabetical order with current contact information as well as the title of the funded research project. The Smith Family is extraordinarily proud of the accomplishments of its Awardees and is honored to provide the critical support for their newly established research programs.

Jonathan Abraham, M.D., Ph.D.
(2022 Award Recipient)
Cracking the codes of emerging virus entry
Harvard Medical School
jonathan_abraham@hms.harvard.edu

Haribabu Arthanari, Ph.D.,
(2022 Award Recipient)
Focus on the Blindspot: Deciphering the Functional Role of Disordered Regions on the Enzymatic Activity of Enzymes
Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
hari@dfci.harvard.edu

Franziska Bleichert, Ph.D.
(2024 Award Recipient)
In situ structural biology of eukaryotic DNA replication
Yale University
franziska.bleichert@yale.edu

Lydia Bourouiba, Ph.D.
(2018 Award Recipient)
Respiratory Disease Transmission: Mechanistic Understanding for Control and Prevention of Epidemics
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
lbouro@mit.edu

Alan Brown, Ph.D.
(2023 Award Recipient)
The Molecular Organization of a Liquid-like Biomolecular Condensate
Harvard Medical School
alan_brown@hms.harvard.edu

Benjamin Lovegren de Bivort, Ph.D.
(2018 Award Recipient)
Mapping Loci of Individuality for Spontaneous and Stimulus-Evoked Behaviors
Harvard University
debivort@oeb.harvard.edu

Edward Chouchani, Ph.D.
(2021 Award Recipient)
Systematic Chemical Manipulation Of Redox Sensitive Cysteines To Regulate Inflammatory Processes
Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
EdwardT_Chouchani@dfci.harvard.edu

Joseph Davis, Ph.D.
(2023 Award Recipient)
Visualizing Protein Complexes At The Membrane
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
jhdavis@mit.edu

Marcelo Dietrich, M.D.
(2021 Award Recipient)
Opioid-Producing Neurons that Mediate the Attachment of Infants to their Mothers
Yale University
marcelo.dietrich@yale.edu

Florian Douam, Ph.D.
(2024 Award Recipient)
Characterizing A Novel Humanized Mouse Platform to Model Arbovirus Transmission
Boston University
fdouam@bu.edu

Jessica Fetterman, Ph.D.
(2024 Award Recipient)
Development of Novel Approaches for Editing Mitochondrial Genetic Variants in Patient-Derived Stem Cells
Boston University
jefetter@bu.edu

Jenna Galloway, Ph.D.
(2021 Award Recipient)
Identifying the molecular and cellular determinants of exercise-driven tendon remodeling
Massachusetts General Hospital
jgalloway@mgh.harvard.edu

Elena Gracheva, Ph.D.

(2018 Award Recipient)

*Regulation of Fluid and Ionic Balance
Under Extreme Physiological States in a
Mammalian Hibernator*

Yale University

elena.gracheva@yale.edu

Yonatan Grad, M.D., Ph.D.

(2020 Award Recipient)

*Mechanisms of Host-pathogen
Interactions from Conditionally Essential
and Deleterious Genes*

Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health

ygrad@hsph.harvard.edu

Paul Greer, Ph.D.

(2023 Award Recipient)

*Elucidating Common Mechanisms Across
Neurodegenerative Disorders*

University of Massachusetts Chan Medical
School

Paul.Greer@umassmed.edu

Ya-Chieh Hsu, Ph.D.

(2018 Award Recipient)

*Cellular and Molecular Mechanisms of
Fetal Skin Regeneration*

Harvard University

yachieh_hsu@harvard.edu

Ruaidhri Jackson, Ph.D.

(2023 Award Recipient)

*Interchromosomal mRNA Chimerism in
Innate Immunity*

Harvard Medical School

ruaidhri_jackson@hms.harvard.edu

Shantanu Jadhav, Ph.D.

(2019 Award Recipient)

*Neural Coordination Mechanisms for
Memory Function and Dysfunction*

Brandeis University

shantanu@brandeis.edu

Dong Kong, Ph.D.

(2022 Award Recipient)

*Genetic Dissection of Dyslipidemia in
Neurodevelopmental Disorders*

Boston Children's Hospital

dong.kong@childrens.harvard.edu

Gene-Wei Li, Ph.D.

(2020 Award Recipient)

*Breakaway Transcription as an Alternative
Paradigm for Bacterial Gene Expression*

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

gwli@mit.edu

Maofu Liao, Ph.D.

(2019 Award Recipient)

*Elucidating the Molecular Mechanism of
ABCA7, a Membrane Transporter
associated with Alzheimer's Disease*

Harvard Medical School

maofu_liao@hms.harvard.edu

Chenxiang Lin, Ph.D.

(2020 Award Recipient)

*Tension-loaded DNA Nanodevices for
Structural Determination of
Mechanosensitive Proteins*

Yale University

chenxiang.lin@yale.edu

Sebastian Lourido, Ph.D.

(2021 Award Recipient)

*Controlling the developmental transitions
of a eukaryotic pathogen*

Whitehead Institute for Biomedical
Research

lourido@wi.mit.edu

Sarah McMenamin, Ph.D.

(2021 Award Recipient)

*Mechanisms by which shape is specified
and remembered during development and
regeneration of the zebrafish fin*

Boston College

mcmenums@bc.edu

Meenakshi Rao, M.D., Ph.D.

(2020 Award Recipient)

Glial Phagocytosis in Intestinal Homeostasis

Boston Children's Hospital

Meenakshi.Rao@childrens.harvard.edu

Esther Rheinbay, Ph.D.

(2024 Award Recipient)

Impact of Somatic Y Chromosome Loss in Immune Cells on Tumor Response

Massachusetts General Hospital

erheinbay@gha.harvard.edu

Mohsan Saeed, Ph.D.

(2023 Award Recipient)

Deciphering the Immune Evasion

Mechanisms of Arboviruses in Mosquitoes

Boston University School of Medicine

msaeed@bu.edu

Sichen Shao, Ph.D.

(2022 Award Recipient)

Establishing Tractable Systems to

Mechanistically Dissect Mammalian ERAD

Harvard Medical School

Sichen_Shao@hms.harvard.edu

Shruti Sharma, Ph.D.

(2024 Award Recipient)

Immune pathways safeguard endothelial integrity and mitigate atherosclerotic severity in aging: a novel target.

Tufts University

Shruti.Sharma@tufts.edu

Sarah Slavoff, Ph.D.

(2019 Award Recipient)

Non-Canonical Translation of Small Open Reading Frames in the Human Genome

Yale Cancer Center

sarah.slavoff@yale.edu

Mansi Srivastava, Ph.D.

(2020 Award Recipient)

Comparing Development and Regeneration to Uncover Mechanisms for Maintaining Regenerative Ability in Adult Animals

Harvard University

mansi@oeb.harvard.edu

Andrew Wang, M.D., Ph.D.

(2021 Award Recipient)

Understanding the Role of Brain T-cells in Defending Sleep

Yale University

andrew.wang@yale.edu

Marc Wein, M.D., Ph.D.

(2022 Award Recipient)

Trafficking and Translation of mRNA in Osteocyte Dendrites

Massachusetts General Hospital

mnwein@mgh.harvard.edu

Jing-Ke Weng, M.D., Ph.D.

(2018 Award Recipient)

Novel Psychiatric Therapeutics Inspired by Bioactive Plant Polyketides

Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research

wengj@wi.mit.edu

Jessica Whited, Ph.D.

(2019 Award Recipient)

Transmission of Amputation Information Throughout the Body in Axolotl

Brigham and Women's Hospital

jessica_whited@harvard.edu

Craig Wilen, M.D., Ph.D.

(2022 Award Recipient)

Epigenetic Regulation of Coronavirus Susceptibility

Yale University

craig.wilen@yale.edu

Wesley Philip Wong, Ph.D.

(2019 Award Recipient)

*Single-Molecule Protein Identification
with Mechanical Nanocalipers*

Boston Children's Hospital

wong@idi.harvard.edu