LIMITED SUBMISSION FUNDING OPPORTUNITY
http://som.ucsd.edu/funding-opportunities

Sponsor: The Paul G. Allen Family Foundation
Program: Allen Distinguished Investigators (ADI) Program
2015 Life Science Focus: Alzheimer’s Disease
Internal Review Deadline: Friday November 14, 2014 5:00 PM
Sponsor Deadlines: January 30, 2015
Nominations allowed: 2 (Two)
Award Amount: $1M to $1.5M
Duration: Over a period of 3 years

This is a limited submission opportunity that requires internal review; see review instructions below.

Award Description

The Allen Distinguished Investigator (ADI) Program seeks to fund a select group of investigators to pursue new, pioneering research that collectively ‘moves the needle’ towards answering broad scientific questions. The most promising proposals will incorporate novel, creative, and ambitious approaches. For this reason, the program is especially interested in proposals that are unlikely to receive funding from traditional government sources.

The ADI 2014 Life Science Focus: Proposals whose focus would provide insights into the basic biological foundations of Alzheimer’s disease, with an emphasis on cellular biology.

Alzheimer’s disease is the most common type of dementia, with an estimated 5.2 million Americans suffering from Alzheimer’s in 2014. While there has been a wealth of knowledge gained in previous years, many questions remain about the precise biological changes that occur prior to and at the earliest stages of disease onset, basic understanding of disease progression and resistance, and how to prevent or delay Alzheimer’s disease onset.

We are seeking revolutionary new ideas to push the field in new directions or even to invent new fields of research, with an emphasis on the cellular biology on Alzheimer’s disease. This call is limited to interdisciplinary teams that include researchers in the field of Alzheimer’s disease paired with researchers in other fields (e.g. lipid biology, immunology, cerebrovascular biology, bioenergetics, biostatistics, biomedical engineers, etc.). Only one member of the team need be from the invited institution. Team collaborations should delineate the effort of each group and collaborations of two or three laboratories should clearly specify the value and integration of such a union.

Lines of Inquiry include (but are not limited to):
- The interplay/relationship between contributors to Alzheimer's pathology. This may include some combination of protein pathologies, mitochondrial dysfunction, lipid biology, immune system, trafficking, vascular biology, etc.
- Consequences of transmission and spread of Alzheimer's Disease pathology
- Investigation into the APOE-Amyloid-Tau interaction and roles in disease progression
- Upstream contributors that lead to downstream proteinopathies, oxidative stress, etc.
- Investigation into why some cell types more vulnerable/resistant than others; bolstering the protective ability of neurons
- Development of new cellular biology methods or techniques that will change or enhance capabilities in Alzheimer’s Disease research

Eligibility

Scientists at any stage of their career may apply. The Foundation has a particular interest in both supporting the careers of exceptional young scientists showing particular promise as thought leaders in their fields and supporting more established researchers with ambitious, high-risk ideas that could have a revolutionary impact in the field but remain outside the scope of traditional funding sources.
INTERNAL REVIEW INSTRUCTIONS:

Required documentation:

1. Title Page (1 page)
   - Title of this funding opportunity
   - Title of proposed research
   - Your full name, current academic title, department, phone number, email address
   - Names of other key personnel (if applicable)

2. Research Plan (3 pages)
   - Technical project summary (200 word limit)
   - Lay project summary (200 word limit)
   - Research Plan – include a description of the proposed project, an explanation of how the proposed project fits in the research agenda focused on a topic area and why it has significant potential to ‘move the needle’ towards answering a broad scientific question posed for the cohort. The interdisciplinary elements of the project should be described. The proposal should also include an explanation of why the proposed project is unlikely to receive funding through traditional sources.

3. CV/NIH Biographical Sketch (maximum of 4 pages)

COMBINE ALL DOCUMENTS LISTED ABOVE INTO ONE PDF and email to hsfunding@ucsd.edu by Friday, November 14, 2014 5:00 PM
   - Name the file using this format only: “Last Name_First Name_AllenADI_App”
   - In the body of your submission email, include your full name and contact information (often accomplished by including an email signature).

All applications for funding must also be reviewed by the Office of Contracts and Grant Administration (OCGA). Upon receiving notification of passing internal review, the selected PI(s) will also be given the contact information for the appropriate OCGA officer. Coordination of the OCGA review will be direct between the PI and their OCGA contact.

CONTACTS

Internal Contact for Questions:

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