FUNDING EARLY CAREERS

Foundation funding opportunities and limited submission
EARLY-CAREER AWARDS

Focus of early-career foundation awards and how they differ from federal funding opportunities

- Investment in scientist or scholar
- Career launcher
- Longer view, not just about the project
- More open to creative approaches, risk-taking, new questions
- Leaders, impact, promise
OVERVIEW OF AWARDS

- **Packard** Fellowships (science and engineering)
- **Sloan** Fellowships (chemistry, computational or evolutionary molecular biology, computer science, economics, mathematics, neuroscience, ocean sciences, physics, or a related field)
- **Rita Allen** Foundation Scholars (biomedical sciences)
- **Mallinckrodt** Scholars & Regular grants (biomedical sciences)
- **Pew** Scholars (biomedical sciences)
- **Searle Scholars** (biomedical sciences and chemistry)
- **Beckman** Young Investigators (chemical and life sciences)
- **Simons** Investigators in Mathematical Modeling of Living Systems
- **Whiting** Public Engagement Fellowship (humanities)
PACKARD FELLOWSHIPS

> “Packard Fellows are inquisitive, passionate scientists and engineers who take a creative approach to their research, dare to think big, and follow new ideas wherever they lead.....explore new frontiers in their fields of study, and follow uncharted paths that may lead to groundbreaking discoveries.”

> Limited submission opportunity announced by Office of Research
PACKARD FELLOWSHIPS

> Eligible in the first three years of faculty appointment and eligible to serve as PI – $875K over 5 years


> Project becomes concrete instance of vision, trajectory
PACKARD FELLOWSHIPS

Disciplines: physics, chemistry, mathematics, biology, astronomy, computer science, earth science, ocean science, and all branches of engineering

18 of 100 nominees selected (50 institutions invited)

UW Packard Fellows

- 2016 – Thomas Rothvoss, Mathematics
- 2015 – Brandi Cossairt, Chemistry
- 2008 – Munira Khalil, Chemistry
- 2006 – Charles Asbury, Biology
- 2002 – Rajesh Rao, Computer Science
PACKARD FELLOWS

- 2000 – Younan Xia, Chemistry (now at Georgia Tech)
- 1999 – Anton Andreev, Physics
- 1998 – Christopher Diorio, Computer Science (now at Impinj)
- 1994 – Christopher Stubbs, Astronomy (now at Harvard)
- 1994 – David Baker, Biochemistry, IPD

* Background on reviewers available as a Word document
SLOAN FELLOWSHIPS

To stimulate fundamental research by early-career scientists and scholars of outstanding promise

Fellows are selected on the basis of their independent research accomplishments, creativity, and potential to become leaders in the scientific community through their contributions to their field.
SLOAN FELLOWSHIPS

> PhD after 2012 for 2018 (with exceptions), tenure-track (assistant prof) – $60K over 2 years

> Disciplines: chemistry, computational or evolutionary molecular biology, computer science, economics, mathematics, neuroscience, ocean sciences, physics, or a related field

> [http://www.sloan.org/sloan-research-fellowships/eligibility-requirements/](http://www.sloan.org/sloan-research-fellowships/eligibility-requirements/)
SLOAN FELLOWSHIPS

> 126 of 700+ nominees each year

> Selection committee: [http://www.sloan.org/sloan-research-fellowships/members-of-the-selection-committees/?L=imbzkscxn%252520](http://www.sloan.org/sloan-research-fellowships/members-of-the-selection-committees/?L=imbzkscxn%252520)

> UW has more than 100 Sloan Fellows
SLOAN FELLOWSHIPS

- 2017 UW Sloan Fellows
  - Ali Farhadi, Computer Science & Engineering
  - Emily Levesque, Astronomy
  - John Tuthill, Physiology & Biophysics

- 2016 UW Sloan Fellows
  - Bingni Brunton, Biology
  - Christopher Laumann, Physics
  - Matthew McQuinn, Astronomy
  - Emina Torlak, Computer Science & Engineering
SLOAN FELLOWSHIPS

> 2015 UW Sloan Fellows

– Brandi Cossairt, Chemistry
– Emily Fox, Computer Science
– Shyam Gollakota, Computer Science
– Thomas Rothvoss, Computer Science
– Cole Trapnell, Computational & Evolutionary Molecular Biology
RITA ALLEN SCHOLARS

> Goal: to advance transformative ideas in their earlier stages and leverage them to promote breakthrough solutions. The funder seeks research projects with above-average risk that break new ground and challenge the status quo.

> Limited submission opportunity announced by the Office of Research
For independent investigators, recommended to be in first 3 years - $110K/year for up to 5 years

http://ritaallen.org/scholars/
http://www.washington.edu/research/funding/opportunities/1266/

Emphasis: biomedical research in the fields of cancer, neuroscience and immunology
RITA ALLEN SCHOLARS

> Not eligible if overlap in first two years with Beckman Young Investigator Program, Ellison New Scholar Award, Kimmel Scholar Award, Pew Scholars Program in Biomedical Sciences, and Searle Scholars Program.

> 2010 UW Rita Allen Scholar
  – Maitreya Dunham, Genome Sciences

> 2009 UW Rita Allen Scholar
  – Daniel Stetson, Immunology
MALLINCKRODT REGULAR GRANTS

> M.D. or Ph.D. in 1st to 4th year of tenure-line appointment – $60K/year for up to 3 years

> Goal for support is to move project to R01 readiness

> 2016 UW Mallinckrodt grant
  – Young Kwon, Biochemistry

> Limited submission opportunity announced by the Office of Research
MALLINCKRODT SCHOLARS

> M.D. or Ph.D. in 5th to 8th year of tenure-line appointment – $400K over 4 years

> http://www.emallinckrodtfoundation.org/Guidelines.html

* Background on trustees available as a Word document
PEW BIOMEDICAL SCHOLARS

> For investigators of outstanding promise in science relevant to the advancement of human health

> Creative and innovative approaches, concepts and theories from diverse fields; risk-taking; performance; notable past accomplishments; significant publications

> Limited submission opportunity announced by the Office of Research
PEW BIOMEDICAL SCHOLARS

> For investigators in first three years of tenure-line faculty appointment – $240K over 4 years

PEW BIOMEDICAL SCHOLARS

- Time spent in clinical residency not counted toward eligibility

- Gives weight to evidence of being a “great investigator” and quantity of publications

- Need biomedical or medical doctorate

- Research focused on advancement of human health
PEW BIOMEDICAL SCHOLARS

> 2017 – David Veesler, Biochemistry
> 2015 – Josh Woodward, Microbiology
> 2004 – Ning Zheng, Pharmacology
> 2002 – Michael Lagunoff, Microbiology
> 1997 – Gail P. Jarvik, Medical Genetics
> 1996 – Hannele T. Ruohola-Baker, Bio & Genome Sciences
> 1989 – Wesley Van Voorhis, Allergy & Infectious Diseases

* National Advisory Committee roster on website (many are HHMI Investigators)
SEARLE SCHOLARS

> First tenure-line position, assistant professor level – $300K over 3 years

> [http://www.searlescholars.net/eligibility](http://www.searlescholars.net/eligibility)

> Disciplines: biochemistry, cell biology, genetics, immunology, neuroscience, pharmacology, and related areas in chemistry, medicine, and the biological sciences

> Limited submission opportunity announced by the Office of Research
SEARLE SCHOLARS

- Statements should be understandable to well-educated, but not necessarily technical, board members
- Risk tolerant but seeks long-term impact
- In first round of review, reviewers read the abstract and either move proposal forward or eliminate
- UW Research thinks UW can improve its record with this foundation
SEARLE SCHOLARS

> UW Searle Scholars
  – 2017 – John Tuthill, Physiology & Biophysics
  – 2006 – Charles Asbury, Physiology & Biophysics
  – 2003 – Brian Kennedy, Biochemistry
  – 2002 – Ram Samudrala (now at SUNY Buffalo)

* Scientific advisory board background available as a Word document
BECKMAN YOUNG INVESTIGATORS

> Innovative, high-risk, promise for significant advances in chemistry and life sciences

> Departure from current research directions: cross-disciplinary; open up new avenues

> Invention of methods, instruments and materials will receive additional consideration.
BECKMAN YOUNG INVESTIGATORS

> In first three years of tenure-line position with no major awards
> $600K - $750K over 4 years
> http://www.beckman-foundation.org/programs/beckman-young-investigators-program-information

> UW Beckman Young Investigators
  – 2017 – Dan Fu, Chemistry
  – 1995 – David Baker, Biochemistry
Simons Investigators in the Mathematical Modeling of Living Systems (limited submission: 2 UW nominees per year)
- $550K over 5 years
- For investigators in first 8 years of faculty appointment with preference for areas where modeling is less established


> Limited submission opportunity announced by the Office of Research
SIMONS MMLS

> Supports mathematically based modeling approaches to life sciences and fosters a scientific culture of theory-experiment collaborations similar to that prevailing in the physical sciences.

> Research areas range from cellular-level issues of organization, regulation, signaling and morphogenetic dynamics to the properties of organisms and ecology, as well as neuroscience and evolution.
> Preference for areas in which modeling approaches are less established, so excludes bioinformatics- and genomics-related proposals.

> Preference for work that relates closely to experiment, developing mathematical models that can explain data, suggest new classes of experiments and introduce important, new concepts.
WHITING PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT FELLOWSHIP

- For faculty in the humanities
- 1 tenured between 2012 and 2017 and 1 untenured, full-time with 2 or more years of service (2018-2019 cycle)
- $50K over one term or 6 months
- [http://www.whiting.org/humanities/public-engagement-fellowship/about](http://www.whiting.org/humanities/public-engagement-fellowship/about)
- Limited submission opportunity announced by the Office of Research
OTHER OPPORTUNITIES

> Beckman Postdoctoral Fellows
  – $63,300 - $77,000 over 2 years
OTHER OPPORTUNITIES

> Burroughs Wellcome Fund Career Awards at the Scientific Interface
  – $500K over 5 years
  – Bridges advanced postdoc and first three years of faculty appointment
OTHER OPPORTUNITIES

> Burroughs Wellcome Fund Career Awards for Medical Scientists
  – $700K over 5 years
  – For physician-scientists to bridge advanced postdoc and early faculty appointment
  – http://www.bwfund.org/grant-programs/biomedical-sciences/career-awards-medical-scientists
OTHER OPPORTUNITIES

> Burroughs Wellcome Fund Investigators in the Pathogenesis of Infectious Disease
  - $500K over 5 years
  - For assistant professors to bring multidisciplinary approaches to the study of human infectious diseases
MAXIMIZING THE ROLE OF EACH ELEMENT

> What your research statement needs to accomplish
  – A lot in a little space; get help with compressing
  – Who you are as a scientist/scholar, how you think
  – Your energy, passion for the work, questions
  – A vision
  – Accessible to educated lay readers as well as experts (but never “dumb down”!)
MAXIMIZING THE ROLE OF EACH ELEMENT

> What other application components need to accomplish
  – Different roles, no redundancy
  – Shortened CV
  – Publications
  – Budget tells story
  – Letters: the perspective only that writer can give

> View as a whole package, not just pieces
Choosing letter writers

- Your impact on their lab/research
- Can they characterize your scholarly qualities and strengths?
- Do they have sufficient information about the funder to aim their letter?
UW LIMITED SUBMISSIONS

> Limited submissions
  - Grants, awards and fellowships that limit the number of applications coming from one institution

> Check out open opportunities
  - uw.edu/research/funding/limited-submissions
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QUESTIONS?

This slide set is available from:
UW Office of Corporate & Foundation Relations
Contact: Kim Johnson-Bogart at kbogart@uw.edu
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