

Consideration of Recommendation from the Grants Working Group on Research Leadership Awards

Agenda Item #9

Research Leadership Awards

Goals:

- Facilitate recruitment to California of the most productive and promising early-to-mid career scientists in stem cell biology and regenerative medicine
- Support robust and innovative research programs focused on fundamental studies of pluripotent and progenitor stem cell biology and/or translational studies leading to innovative stem cell-based therapies for disease and injury



Research Leadership Awards

Program Eligibility and Scope:

- Open to non-profit California institutions
- Candidate (PI) must hold position outside California and have been independent for at least 3 years
- Individual institutions may receive only one award

Award Features:

- Research supported for up to 5 years
- Awardees must commit at least 75% time to stem cell/regenerative medicine research
- Eligible Costs include PI salary, lab operations, lab relocation, equipment (matched by institution), facilities and indirect costs



Research Leadership Awards

Review Criteria:

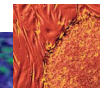
- Research Vision and Plans
 - Significance
 - Innovation
- PI Accomplishments and Potential
 - Research Achievement
 - Impact
 - Leadership
 - Assessment of accomplishments and potential by leaders in the field
- Institutional Commitment and Environment



Research Leadership Awards

Application Cycle 14

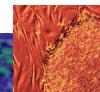
- Authorized by ICOC, 7/25/13
Concept approved for funding of up to 4 additional awards
with a budget of up to \$23 MM
- Application deadline, 1/14/14
5 applications received
- GWG review, 3/24/14



Research Leadership Awards

Review and Recommendation:

Application	Title	Score	Recommendation
LA1-08015	Engineering microscale tissue constructs from human pluripotent stem cells	85	Recommended for Funding
LA1-08014	Niche-Focused Research: Discovery & Development of Hematopoietic Regenerative Factors	79	Recommended for Funding
LA1-08013	Single Molecule Biophysics and Biology of Cellular Identity	76	Recommended for Funding
LA1-08011	Rejuvenation of human skeletal muscle stem cell function during aging, injury and disease	68	Tier 2
LA1-08012	Modulation of the regenerative niche: an improved platform toward clinical trials	66	Tier 2



Research Leadership Awards

Staff Recommendation:

- Recommend funding of Tier 1 applications (LA1-08015, LA1-08014, LA1-08013)
- Recommend not funding of Tier 2 applications (LA1-08011, LA1-08012) unless the ICOC identifies a compelling programmatic reason



Research Leadership Awards



**Approval is requested for 3 Research Leadership Awards
for a total cost of \$16.2 million.**

