

August 16, 2017

PhRMA FOUNDATION NEWS

Supporting research and early career endeavors of scientists in drug discovery and development

> *From the President*

Dear Colleagues:

Did you know that the PhRMA Foundation funded research on Taxol® over 40 years ago that led to what is now one of the most successful oncology treatments in the world? Or that 70% of the scientists we've supported have had their research backed by the NIH?



For more than 50 years, the PhRMA Foundation has been awarding brilliant, budding scientists with research-support grants that help patients around the world live longer, healthier lives. In fact, since our founding, we've awarded \$83 million in funding to support this critical work (including \$3 million last year alone).

Today we provide [support for a wide range of research disciplines](#) – from informatics and pharmacology to translational medicine. Remaining nimble in the ever-changing field of health care, this year we also launched an exciting new program designed to address the shift in health care delivery from a volume-based model to a value-based one. The [Value Assessment Initiative](#) will provide over \$1 million dollars in grants in three categories for research aimed at assessing the value of medicines and health care services to improve patient outcomes and reduce inefficiency.

We hope “PhRMA Foundation News” will raise the visibility of the Foundation and increase awareness about opportunities for funding to support tomorrow’s breakthrough researchers. Past award recipients are today’s trailblazers – making significant drug discoveries, starting and running companies, publishing journals, conducting clinical trials, leading regulatory agencies, and improving the lives of patients around the globe.

You’ll receive the “PhRMA Foundation News” several times a year to keep you updated about Foundation grants and activities as well as the work of our award recipients. Please feel free to forward this newsletter to any researchers you know who are in need of funding to support their work. They could be our next award recipient!

Thank you for your interest in the PhRMA Foundation and our work to advance value-driven health care to ensure a healthier future.

Sincerely,
Eileen Cannon
President
PhRMA Foundation

> Value Assessment Initiative Launched

The delivery of health care in the United States is rapidly shifting from a volume-based to a value-based model, a transition that will certainly impact all health care sectors – from patients to payers to providers. As this trend gathers momentum, there is a pressing need for accurate, transparent information about the value of health interventions.

Recognizing this need, the Foundation has launched the [Value Assessment Initiative](#), which will reward researchers who are breaking new ground in determining the meaning and measurement of value in medicines and health care services – with the goal of improving patient outcomes and efficiency in the delivery of health care.

This exciting new funding opportunity, available for the first time in 2017, offers support in three categories:

Challenge Awards: Up to \$50,000

Support for papers that describe solutions to the following question: What are transformative strategies to measure or evaluate value of health interventions that could be implemented to advance a value-driven health care system in the United States?

Research Awards: \$100,000

Support for proposals to identify and address challenges in approaches to assess the value of medicines and health care services.

Center of Excellence Award: \$500,000

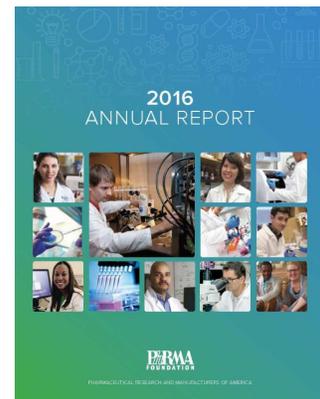
Support for the development of a multi-disciplinary, collaborative center that will undertake activities to build evidence, tools and partnerships that can inform value assessment strategies and value-driven decision making.

In a [special article in this year's PhRMA Foundation Annual Report](#), health policy expert **Bryan R. Luce, PhD, MBA** lauded our new initiative, calling for the research community to develop “creative thinking, out-of-the-box intuition and transformative solutions to adequately capture value” and noting that the PhRMA Foundation’s Value Assessment Initiative is a step in the right direction. “In the fray of health reform, one issue is clear,” he said. “Cost growth is unsustainable and can best be managed by promoting delivery of high value care and avoiding waste in low value care.”

> Read our Annual Report

The Foundation recently published its [2016 Annual Report](#), which provides profiles of our grant and fellowship recipients and highlights of our activities. The report provides details of the research projects currently being pursued by each of our more than 40 funding recipients.

In his [introduction to the report](#), PhRMA Foundation Chairman **Alfred W. Sandrock, MD, PhD**, stressed the Foundation’s new emphasis on supporting research aimed at value assessment: “With groundbreaking medicines and rising costs comes the demand to demonstrate value for patients, using robust, reliable, and sound evidence that supports individual needs and preferences...By operating within a patient-centered framework, Foundation researchers are accelerating the shift to a health care system that is based on value, not volume.”



Awardee Spotlight

Elizabeth Mutter-Rottmayer

Elizabeth Mutter-Rottmayer, a Toxicology PhD student at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, was recently awarded the PhRMA Foundation’s competitive pre-doctoral fellowship in Pharmacology/Toxicology.

With the help of her mentor, Dr. Cyrus Vaziri, Liz is currently conducting research to uncover how mechanisms of DNA repair may alter environmental susceptibility as well as the efficacy of chemotherapeutic genotoxins, thus contributing to carcinogenesis.



Liz ultimately wants to utilize an improved understanding of the molecular mechanisms of chemoresistance to develop more effective treatment options for patients.

“Receiving the PhRMA Foundation Award has helped me develop skills to become an independent investigator by supporting my research in identifying cancer cell-specific mechanisms of DNA repair that may help improve cancer treatment,” she said. Liz received her bachelor of science degree in Environmental Toxicology from the University of California, Davis.

> Award Applications are Due September 1!

The application deadline for the Foundation's awards in Informatics, Pharmaceuticals, and Pharmacology/Toxicology is **September 1, 2017**. To apply, please visit the [2018 awards page at the Foundation's website](#).

Questions about how to apply? [Click here for our application guide.](#)

Grant Recipients

Congratulations to our 2017 Fellowship and Grant Recipients

PHARMACOLOGY/TOXICOLOGY

Timothy Baffi
University of California, San Diego

Erin Baker
Northwestern University

Elizabeth Grace Gibson
Vanderbilt University

William Hedrich
University of Maryland, Baltimore

Thuy Hoang
Johns Hopkins University

Max Joffe, PhD
Vanderbilt University

Anthony Jones
State University of New York, Buffalo

Jakub Kostal, PhD
George Washington University

Jessica Murray
University of Pennsylvania

Elizabeth Mutter-Rottmayer
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

Michael Nedelcovych, PhD
Johns Hopkins University

Adam Schaezner
University of Wisconsin-Madison

Peter Tonge, PhD
Stony Brook University

Jill Rebecca Turner, PhD
University of South Carolina

INFORMATICS

PHARMACEUTICS (con't)

Christine Lee
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

Naila Mugheirbi, PhD
Purdue University

Max Purro
University of Wisconsin, Madison

Jennifer Schiller
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

Zachary Warnken, PharmD
University of Texas, Austin

ADHERENCE IMPROVEMENT

Adam Sage
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

HEALTH OUTCOMES

Joshua D. Brown, PhD
University of Florida

Maya Hanna
University of Maryland, Baltimore

Wei-Hsuan 'Jenny' Lo-Ciganic, PhD
University of Arizona

Natalia Olchanski
Tufts Medical Center

Nicholas Schiltz, PhD
Case Western Reserve University

TRANSLATIONAL MEDICINE and

Jacob Kimmel

University of California, San Francisco

Jingyi Li, PhD

University of California, Los Angeles

Daniel Lobo, PhD

University of Maryland, Baltimore

Benjamin Mueller, PhD

Vanderbilt University

Jian Peng, PhD

University of Illinois, Urbana

Bo Zhang

Pennsylvania State University

PHARMACEUTICS

Eric Appel, PhD

Stanford University

Joshua Gammon

University of Maryland, College Park

THERAPEUTICS

Mark T.W. Ebbert, PhD

Mayo Clinic

Isabel Lam, PhD

Brigham and Women's Hospital

Alan H. Shain, PhD

University of California, San Francisco

Qun Wang, PhD

Iowa State University of Science & Technology

Norelle Wildburger, PhD

Washington University

CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY

Nikhil V. Chavali

Vanderbilt University School of Medicine

Michael C. Montana, PhD

Washington University

Richard A. Morgan

University of California, Los Angeles

[Visit our website for more information](#)

PhRMA Foundation | Phone: 202-572-7756 | Email: foundation@phrma.org

STAY CONNECTED

