



P R E S S R E L E A S E

For Immediate Release

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D O R I S D U K E
CHARITABLE FOUNDATION
Medical Research Program

DORIS DUKE CHARITABLE FOUNDATION AWARDS \$6 MILLION FOR CLINICAL RESEARCH

*Four Scientists Recommended to Receive
2004 Distinguished Clinical Scientist Awards in “Bench-to-Bedside Research”*

New York, N.Y., October 28, 2004 – The Doris Duke Charitable Foundation today announced the results of its fifth Doris Duke Distinguished Clinical Scientist Award (DCSA) competition in which four outstanding mid-career physician-scientists conducting translational clinical research have been recommended to receive support totaling \$6 million. The DCSA grant program currently supports 27 physician-scientists at 16 different institutions for a total commitment of more than \$45 million, including the four award recipients for 2004:

David E. Fisher, M.D., Ph.D.

Children's Hospital of Boston / Harvard Medical School

Project Title: *Novel Strategies for Treatment and Prevention of Melanoma*

Sanjiv S. Gambhir, M.D., Ph.D.

Stanford University School of Medicine

Project Title: *Molecular Imaging of Cancer with a Voltage Sensor*

Robert S. Negrin, M.D.

Stanford University School of Medicine

Project Title: *Regulatory T Cells in Bone Marrow Transplantation*

Philip J. Rosenthal, M.D.

University of California, San Francisco

Project Title: *Translational Studies of Antimalarial Drug Resistance*

Each 2004 DCSA recipient will be awarded up to \$1.5 million to be used over five to seven years to support research teams translating the latest scientific advances into new ways to prevent, diagnose, treat or cure disease. Unlike previous years, this DCSA competition was not limited to specific disease areas.

Two distinguishing attributes of the DCSA are its method of payment, which disburses the majority of the award to researchers at the beginning of the grant period to enable greater flexibility, and the requirement that the awardee use at least one-third of the grant to mentor junior clinical researchers and encourage cross-disciplinary research.

Nonprofit U.S. medical research institutions were invited to nominate two investigators who have demonstrated leadership, a history of excellence in translational clinical research, and a long-term commitment to research. Expert panels reviewed 71 nomination packages and recommended 21 nominees to be invited to submit research proposals. Twelve applicants submitting full proposals were interviewed by a panel chaired by Dr. David Nathan, President Emeritus, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and Chair of the Medical Research Program's Scientific Advisory Council.

"We are extremely pleased to be able to continue to support outstanding physician-scientists devoted to translating today's basic scientific breakthroughs into new cures and treatments for human diseases," said Joan E. Spero, President of the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation.

The Distinguished Clinical Scientist Award was established in 1999 to recognize and support the achievements and promise of outstanding mid-career physician-scientists. It is likely that the next DCSA competition will be held in 2006.

Since making its first awards in 1998, the Medical Research Program has committed over \$120 million to support initiatives to strengthen and support clinical research. Those interested in receiving e-mail notification of upcoming award competitions are invited to join the Medical Research Program's list-serve by visiting its Web site at www.ddcf.org/mrp.

Established in 1996, the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation seeks to improve the quality of people's lives through grants supporting the performing arts, wildlife conservation, medical research and the prevention of child maltreatment, and through preservation of the cultural and environmental legacy of Doris Duke's properties. More information about the foundation can be found at www.ddcf.org.

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