



## PRESS RELEASE

### For Immediate Release

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DORIS DUKE  
CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

Medical Research Program

### **DORIS DUKE CHARITABLE FOUNDATION SUPPORTS OPEN-ACCESS PUBLISHING AND THE PUBLIC LIBRARY OF SCIENCE**

*Foundation will support the costs for its grantees to publish their work in open-access journals published by the Public Library of Science*

**New York, N.Y., November 8, 2004** – The Doris Duke Charitable Foundation (DDCF) and the Public Library of Science (PLoS) today jointly announced an innovative arrangement by which the DDCF will encourage the scientists and clinicians the foundation supports to submit their work to the peer-reviewed, open-access journals published by PLoS.

The DDCF hopes that the broad dissemination of the research it funds through publication in open-access journals will increase the impact of these discoveries on clinical research and practice, in keeping with the foundation's mission. The foundation joins the National Institutes of Health and other prominent funders of research in adopting policies and setting aside funds to promote the unfettered dissemination of work they support.

The grant of \$20,000 from DDCF for a PLoS Institutional Membership represents the first membership PLoS has received from a research funder. The Membership, which goes into effect January 1, 2005, will provide a simple way for DDCF and PLoS to work together to raise the visibility of open-access publishing and of PLoS journals among the renowned researchers supported by DDCF.

By charging author-side publication fees instead of subscriptions, PLoS can make its journals' content freely and immediately available to anyone via the Internet. The Institutional Membership with DDCF will allow publication charges to be waived for all authors funded by DDCF whose papers are accepted for publication in any PLoS journal. Other prominent biomedical research funders including the Howard Hughes Medical Institute and the Wellcome Trust support open-access publication charges through their research grants. PLoS also has Institutional Membership arrangements with many academic libraries and several companies that provide discounts or waivers on publication charges for affiliated authors whose papers are accepted for publication in PLoS journals.

The DDCF Medical Research Program supports several clinical research initiatives, including Distinguished Clinical Scientist awards, Clinical Scientist Development awards, Clinical Interface awards, Innovation in Clinical Research awards, and International AIDS research grants. All researchers currently funded through these initiatives will qualify for a full discount on the publication charge in PLoS journals.

Already several researchers supported by DDCF have been published in PLoS journals, including *PLoS Biology* author Joe DeRisi of the University of California, San Francisco and *PLoS Medicine* author Bruce Walker of Harvard Medical School. Another DDCF grantee, Brian Druker of Oregon Health and Science University, serves on the PLoS Board of Directors, while several others serve on the editorial boards of PLoS journals.

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. 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. More information about the foundation can be found at [www.ddcf.org](http://www.ddcf.org).

The Public Library of Science (PLoS) is a non-profit organization of scientists and physicians committed to making the world's scientific and medical research a public resource. PLoS publishes open-access journals of original peer-reviewed research, including *PLoS Biology* and *PLoS Medicine*, which are available for free to anyone in the world with a connection to the internet. More information about PLoS can be found at [www.plos.org](http://www.plos.org).

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