2014 Awards Dinner
Discovery, Mentor and
Richard T. Jones New Investigator

November 12, 2014
The Sentinel Hotel
Portland, Oregon
The MRF was founded in 1942 by a group of businessmen and physicians for the purpose of stimulating medical research achievement in our state. That first year, the program awarded $200.

When the MRF became an affiliate committee of the OHSU Foundation in 1994, it retained its own unique purpose in recognizing excellence in both scientific achievement and mentorship throughout Oregon. Today, through philanthropic support, the program awards more than $1 million per year to support exceptional research projects throughout Oregon and to acknowledge the work of outstanding investigators and mentors. Past award winners include some of Oregon’s most illustrious scientists and educators.

The MRF is seeking to raise $2 million in endowed funds to support the programs that identify and invest in new scientific talent. A gift designated to the MRF endowment is an investment in the future of world-class biomedical research in Oregon. Such gifts provide the MRF with financial resources in perpetuity to keep the quest for new treatments and new knowledge moving ever forward.

The Richard T. Jones New Investigator Award is intended to honor a new investigator who shows exceptional promise early in a career in biomedical research. Nominees are judged on the basis of independence, quality of science, national funding, and first or senior authored publications in peer-reviewed biomedical research journals. The culmination of the research must have been performed in Oregon.

The Mentor Award is given to an Oregonian who has provided outstanding leadership in support or development of health research, education or the advancement of health care.

The Discovery Award is given to an Oregon scientist who has made significant, original discoveries to health-related research while working in Oregon.

Nominations for all awards are sought from Oregon research, educational and health care institutions, individual researchers, educators and practitioners.
Program

5:30 p.m.  Gathering

6:00 p.m.  Welcome
M. Susan Smith, Ph.D.
Chair, MRF Committee

Special Remarks
Dan Dorsa, Ph.D.
Sr. Vice President for Research
Oregon Health & Sciences University

Award Presentations

Discovery Award
George S. Bailey, Ph.D.
1941 – 2014
Distinguished Professor
Department of Environmental and Molecular Toxicology
Linus Pauling Institute – Oregon State University
Award Presented By Emily Ho, Ph.D.
Award Accepted By Roderick H. Dashwood, Ph.D.

Mentor Award
Fay B. Horak, Ph.D.
Professor, Department of Neurology
Oregon Health & Sciences University and
Portland VA Medical Center
And
Supervisory Research Scientist, Portland VA Medical Center
Award Presented By Brett W. Fling, Ph.D.

Richard T. Jones New Investigator Award
Joshi J. Alumkal, M.D.
Associate Professor of Medicine and Co-Leader
Prostate Cancer Research Program
Oregon Health & Science University
Award Presented By Tomasz M. Beer, M.D.
The MRF Discovery Award recognizes George S. Bailey, Ph.D., an internationally recognized expert in the field of cancer chemoprevention. Dr. Bailey is renowned for his pioneering work in characterizing the rainbow trout as a model for human cancer, primarily hepatocellular carcinoma, the third leading cause of cancer mortality worldwide. His research has the potential to dramatically limit colon and liver cancer rates in many regions of the world, including in the United States.

Dr. Bailey’s work has become the gold standard by which model organisms are used to establish mechanisms that could be translated to humans. Through his work, a new paradigm has been established that challenges the common practice of simply extrapolating low-dose responses. His research has critically changed the way the cancer field understands the effects of carcinogens, especially at human-relevant exposures, and ways to mitigate these effects through dietary intervention.

He has published over 150 papers in highly regarded peer-reviewed scientific journals and invited papers, and he has won several international awards for outstanding research, including the Award of Merit by the Foundation for Promotion of Cancer Research in Japan, and the highly prestigious Prince Hitachi Prize for Comparative Oncology. Over a stellar career spanning several decades, he has been a role model and mentor for many visiting scientists, postdoctoral fellows, and graduate and undergraduate students.

Dr. Bailey was a Distinguished Professor Emeritus in Environmental and Molecular Toxicology and retired Principal Investigator in the Linus Pauling Institute at Oregon State University. He earned a B.S. in chemistry from the University of Southern California, and a Ph.D. in biochemistry from the University of California, Berkeley. His hobbies included playing in the Sawtooth Mountain Boys bluegrass band, fly fishing, viticulture, and custom rebuilding of American classic trucks.
The MRF Mentor award recognizes Dr. Fay Horak for her extraordinary skill and unwavering dedication as a role model and mentor. Mentees comment that her abilities as a coach, collaborator, advisor and advocate have been instrumental to their success in academia as well as to their development as healthcare professionals. Generous with her time and attention, she has helped students and trainees earn grants to support research projects, network with fellow scientists around the globe, and hone their skills as technical writers. She has been a mentor for 47 postdoctoral fellows, including numerous MRF grant recipients over the years. Over 30 former trainees hold faculty positions in locations as diverse as Thailand, Israel, Sweden, Brazil, Korea, Canada and the United States.

Dr. Horak has been conducting research in movement disorders since she moved to Oregon in 1982. Her work focuses on the neurological disorders that affect balance and gait in the elderly, people with Parkinson's disease, multiple sclerosis, diabetic neuropathy, and other conditions. Her laboratory is internationally recognized for conducting decades of preeminent studies that have led to a better understanding of the neural mechanisms that control balance and gait.

In 2009 she received an esteemed and rare Merit Award from the National Institutes on Aging for her substantial contributions to understanding balance disorders in the elderly. She received the Mary McMillian Research Award from the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA), as well several research awards from the Neurology and Pediatric Sections of APTA. She has co-authored more than 220 peer-reviewed publications and over 40 book chapters.

Dr. Horak received a Master’s degree in neurophysiology at University of Minnesota and a Ph.D. in physical therapy from University of Washington.
The Richard T. Jones New Investigator Award recognizes Joshi J. Alumkal, M.D., a physician-scientist whose work on developing more effective treatments for advanced prostate cancer patients has had a significant impact in Oregon and beyond.

Dr. Alumkal is an Associate Professor of Medicine and Co-Leader of the OHSU Prostate Cancer Research Program. Dr. Alumkal’s research is focused on understanding molecular mechanisms by which lethal prostate cancers evolve. A key goal of his work, which includes both clinical research and basic bench science, is to translate insights from the laboratory to “smart” clinical trials for men with advanced prostate cancer. These trials incorporate important laboratory studies to confirm that novel pharmacological agents have the expected molecular and cellular biological effects and to identify potential adaptive responses that might account for drug resistance in the tumor cells.

He has published his research in top journals, including Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences and The Lancet, and he is the recipient of numerous grants and research contracts. His first grant at OHSU was a New Investigator Award from the Medical Research Foundation. Currently, he is principal investigator on grants from the National Institutes of Health, U.S. Department of Defense, Prostate Cancer Foundation (PCF), and Oregon Clinical and Translational Research Institute. Along with several OHSU colleagues, he is also a co-investigator on a multi-center Prostate Cancer Dream Team Award funded by the Stand Up to Cancer Foundation, American Association for Cancer Research, and PCF.

Dr. Alumkal earned a B.S. in Biology from The University of Texas at Austin, graduating summa cum laude. He received his medical degree from Baylor College of Medicine and completed Internal Medicine residency training at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, where he also served as Chief Resident. He pursued Medical Oncology fellowship training and a post-doctoral fellowship at Johns Hopkins University and was recruited to the OHSU Knight Cancer Institute in 2007.
Former Discovery Award Recipients

2013
Saturday Academy
Portland, Oregon

2012
Christopher Minson, Ph.D.
University of Oregon

2011
J. Gary Tallman Ph.D.
Willamette University

2010
Richard H. Goodman, M.D., Ph.D.
Oregon Health & Science University
Christine A. Tanner, Ph.D., R.N., F.A.A.N.
Oregon Health & Science University

2009
David and Lynn Frohnmayer
Fanconi Anemia Research Fund

2008
Stephen W. Arch, Ph.D.
Reed College

2007
Kevin G. Ahern, Ph.D.
Oregon State University

2006
Thomas M. Becker, M.D., Ph.D.
Oregon Health & Science University
M. Susan Smith, Ph.D.
Oregon Health & Science University

2005
Lesley M. Hallick, Ph.D.
Oregon Health & Science University

2004
Cynthia Morris, Ph.D., M.P.H.
Oregon Health & Science University

2003
Christopher L. Cunningham, Ph.D.
Oregon Health & Science University

2002
Kathleen Potempa, R.N., D.N.Sc., F.A.A.N.
Oregon Health & Science University
Laurens N. Ruben, Ph.D.
Reed College

2001
Thomas G. Cooney, M.D., F.A.C.P.
Oregon Health & Science University

2000
John A. Benson, Jr., M.D.
Oregon Health & Science University
Kent L. Thornburg, Ph.D.
Oregon Health & Science University

1999
Joseph D. Bloom, M.D.
Oregon Health & Science University

1998
Carol A. Lindeman, Ph.D., R.N., F.A.A.N.
Oregon Health & Science University

1997
J. S. Reinschmidt, M.D.
Oregon Health & Science University

1996
Kenneth Swan, M.D.
Oregon Health & Science University

1995
J. David Bristow, M.D.
Oregon Health & Science University

1994
Peter O. Kohler, M.D.
Oregon Health & Science University

1993
John Raaf, M.D.
Good Samaritan Hospital

1992
John W. Kendall, M.D.
Oregon Health & Science University

1991
Robert D. Koler, M.D.
Oregon Health & Science University

1990
Edward H. Cooley
Medical Research Foundation of Oregon

1988
Leonard Laster, M.D.
Oregon Health & Science University

1987
Edward Herbert, Ph.D.
Oregon Health & Science University

1986
Senator Mark O. Hatfield

Former Mentor Award Recipients
Former Discovery Award Recipients

2013
P. Andrew Karplus, Ph.D.
Oregon State University

Eric Orwoll, M.D.
Oregon Health & Science University

2012
Joseph S. Beckman, Ph.D.
Oregon State University

2011
Chris Q. Doe, Ph.D.
University of Oregon

Gail Mandel, Ph.D.
Oregon Health & Science University

2010
Shoukhrat M. Mitalipov, Ph.D.
Oregon Health & Science University

2009
J. Eric Gouaux, Ph.D.
Vollum Institute
Oregon Health & Science University

2008
Lynn Y. Sakai, Ph.D.
Shriners Hospitals for Children and
Oregon Health & Science University

2007
Markus Grompe, M.D.
Oregon Health & Science University

John H. Postlethwait, Ph.D.
University of Oregon

2006
Susan J. Hayflick, M.D.
Oregon Health & Science University

2005
Balz Frei, Ph.D.
Oregon State University

David Kabat, Ph.D.
Oregon Health & Science University

2004
P. Michael Conn, Ph.D.
Oregon Health & Science University

James D. White, Ph.D.
Oregon State University

2003
*James R. Bunzow, M.S.
*David K. Grandy, Ph.D.,
Oregon Health & Science University

John D. Scott, Ph.D.
Oregon Health & Science University

2002
Monte Westerfield, Ph.D.
University of Oregon

2001
P. Shing Ho, Ph.D.
Oregon State University

James T. Rosenbaum, M.D.
Oregon Health & Science University

2000
David A. Lieberman, M.D.
Oregon Health & Science University

1999
Brian J. Druker, M.D.
Oregon Health & Science University

Roger D. Cone, Ph.D.
Oregon Health & Science University

1998
Dennis E. Hruby, Ph.D.
Oregon State University

Charles B. Kimmel, Ph.D.
University of Oregon

1997
J. David Bristow, M.D.
Oregon Health & Science University

Tom H. Stevens, Ph.D.
University of Oregon

1996
Scott H. Goodnight, M.D.
Oregon Health & Science University

R. Michael Liskay, Ph.D.
Oregon Health & Science University

1995
John C. Crabbe, Jr., Ph.D.
Oregon Health & Science University

Edward A. Neuwelt, M.D.
Oregon Health & Science University

1994
John M. Barry, M.D.
Oregon Health & Science University

*Alfred J. Lewy, M.D., Ph.D.
*Robert L. Sack, M.D.
Oregon Health & Science University
Former Discovery Award Recipients

1993
Richard H. Goodman, M.D., Ph.D.
Oregon Health & Science University
R. Ellen Magenis, M.D.
Oregon Health & Science University

1992
M. René Malinow, M.D.
Oregon Regional Primate Research Center
Josef Rosch, M.D.
Oregon Health & Science University

1991
William M. Bennett, M.D.
Oregon Health & Science University
Frederick W. Dahlquist, Ph.D.
University of Oregon

1990
Grover C. Bagby, Jr., M.D., VAMC
Oregon Health & Science University
Roderick A. Capaldi, D.Phil.
University of Oregon

1989
Richard T. Jones, M.D., Ph.D.
Oregon Health & Science University
Kensal E. van Holde, Ph.D.
Oregon State University

1988
Robert S. Dow, M.D.
Dow Institute, Good Samaritan Hospital
Donald J. Reed, Ph.D.
Oregon State University

1987
William E. Connor, M.D.
Oregon Health & Science University
Brian W. Matthews, Ph.D.
Institute of Molecular Biology, University of Oregon

1986
Christopher K. Mathews, Ph.D.
Oregon State University
Peter H. von Hippel, Ph.D.
Institute of Molecular Biology, University of Oregon

1985
Monte Greer, M.D.
Oregon Health & Science University
Barbara Iglewski, Ph.D.
Oregon Health & Science University

1984
Howard S. Mason, Ph.D.
Oregon Health & Science University
James Metcalfe, M.D.
Oregon Health & Science University

* joint award

Former Richard T. Jones New Investigator Award Recipients

2013
Jennifer E. DeVoe, M.D.
Oregon Health & Science University

2012
Bonnie Nagel, Ph.D.
Oregon Health & Science University

2011
Hui Zong, Ph.D.
University of Oregon

2010
Kevin L. Winthrop, M.D.
Oregon Health & Science University

2009
Joseph W. Thornton, Ph.D.
Center for Ecology & Evolutionary Biology, University of Oregon

2008
Rosalie C. Sears, Ph.D.
Oregon Health & Science University
For half a century, the Medical Research Foundation of Oregon has enhanced the quality and quantity of life-science research carried out at Oregon’s leading research institutions. Through research grants, early clinical investigator awards and other programs, the MRF each year invests more than $1 million in innovative biomedical research in the state of Oregon.

By encouraging Oregon scientists to pursue their most innovative ideas, and by fostering a statewide culture of mentorship and lifelong learning, the MRF contributes to the idea that Oregon’s total value in the biosciences is worth far more than just the sum of its individual parts.

To learn more about how you can support the MRF’s mission to promote innovation and discovery in Oregon, please contact the OHSU Foundation at 503 228-1730. To give online, go to www.ohsufoundation.org.

The Medical Research Foundation (MRF) supports promising biomedical exploration and the development of research careers in clinical investigation in Oregon through a program of competitively awarded research grants in excess of $1 million annually.

New Investigator: Quarterly grants of up to $40,000 are intended for physicians and scientists who are new to research and are currently without major funding resources.

Emergency Interim Support for Established Investigator: Quarterly grants of up to $40,000 may be made to support ongoing research when an investigator is between grants and a hiatus would jeopardize the program.

Early Clinical Investigator (ECI): Quarterly grants of up to $20,000 are intended to further the development of young investigators who interact with human subjects and who are interested in a career in clinical research.

The Oregon Scientist Development Award: One annual grant of up to $75,000 may be made to support exceptional, but not yet fully independent young investigators who are making the transition from an intermediate rank to scientific independence.

For more information about Medical Research Foundation Awards and Grants or to make a gift in support of the MRF, visit www.mrf-oregon.org.
M. Susan Smith, Ph.D., Chair
Peter G. Barr-Gillespie, Ph.D.
Truman W. Collins, Jr.
Victoria J. DeRose, Ph.D.
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Caroline A. Enns, Ph.D.
Balz Frei, Ph.D.
Jeffrey T. Jensen, M.D., M.P.H.
Kim D. Jones, R.N.C., Ph.D., F.N.P.
David M. Koeller, M.D.
Peter Mayinger, Ph.D.
Cynthia D. Morris, Ph.D., M.P.H.
Kevin Reynolds, Ph.D.
Mary H. Samuels, M.D.
Thomas Scanlan, Ph.D.