

# OCTRI KL2 Awardees

The OCTRI KL2 program is pleased to announce the recipients of an NIH/NCATS supported KL2 career development award. The goal of this OCTRI initiative is to develop independent clinical investigators to conduct interdisciplinary research with scientists from diverse disciplines. The scholars pursue clinical and translational research in a mentored environment for up to 2 years each and participate in ongoing training, such as enrollment in the Master of Clinical Research program. The KL2 award supports early career faculty from OHSU, Portland State University, University of Oregon, and Oregon State University.

## 2026 SCHOLARS AWARDED

**Robert Wilechansky**, M.D., School of Medicine, Gastroenterology and Hepatology

**Primary Mentors:** Andrew McHill, Ph.D., Associate Professor, School of Nursing and Oregon Institute of Occupational Health Sciences

**Research Project:** Timing of Energy Intake and Liver Fibrosis in Metabolic Dysfunction-Associated Steatotic Liver Disease

## 2025 SCHOLARS AWARDED

**Stephanie Egge**, M.D., School of Medicine, Infectious Diseases

**Primary Mentor:** Morgan Hakki, M.D., Professor, Infectious Diseases

**Research Project:** Pseudomonas aeruginosa heteroresistance to first-line  $\beta$ -lactam antibiotics: prevalence, risk factors, and clinical impact

**Katie Hauschildt**, Ph.D., School of Medicine, Pulmonary Critical Care

**Primary Mentors:** Terri Hough, M.D., M.Sc., Professor, Pulmonary Critical Care; and Kelly Vranas, M.D., M.C.R., Associate Professor, Pulmonary Critical Care

## KL2 PROGRAM CONTACTS

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## RFA

Please check the [KL2 website](#) for expected KL2 RFA release dates. Contact Melissa Mudd for further details.

**Research Project:** CLEAR (Clinician Linkage for Effective Ambulatory Recovery)

*Michelle Marneweck*, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Human Physiology, University of Oregon

**Primary Mentor:** Andrew Karduna, Ph.D., Professor and Department Head, Human Physiology

**Research Project:** Motor planning under haptic uncertainty in older adults

*Daniel Nelson*, M.D., M.P.P., School of Medicine, General Internal Medicine and Geriatrics

**Primary Mentor:** John McConnell, Ph.D., M.S., Professor, Emergency Medicine and Director, Center for Health Systems Effectiveness

**Research Project:** Feasibility of evaluating Oregon Medicaid's Section 1115 post-incarceration community reentry waiver

*Elizabeth Wood*, Ph.D., School of Medicine, Psychiatry

**Primary Mentors:** Elinor Sullivan, Ph.D., Professor, Psychiatry and Behavioral Neuroscience; Jamie Lo, M.D., M.C.R., Associate Professor, Obstetrics and Gynecology, Urology, and the Oregon National Primate Research Center

**Research Project:** Maternal-placental-fetal inflammatory programming of infant cardiometabolic disease

## 2024 SCHOLARS AWARDED

*Jessica Hebert*, Ph.D., School of Medicine, Nephrology & Hypertension

**Primary Mentor:** Michael Hutchens, M.D., Professor, Anesthesiology and Perioperative Medicine

**Research Project:** Determining mechanisms of longitudinal reproductive impact following recovered maternal AKI

*Noah Hornick*, M.D., Ph.D., School of Medicine, Dermatology

**Primary Mentor:** Amy Moran, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Cell, Developmental and Cancer Biology

**Research Project:** The role of androgens in differentiating checkpoint-induced and spontaneous lichenoid skin disease

*Hunter Spencer*, D.O., School of Medicine, General Internal Medicine and Geriatrics

**Primary Mentors:** Todd Korthuis, M.D., M.P.H., Professor, School of Medicine, Addiction Medicine; Ryan Cook, Ph.D., M.S.P.H., Assistant Professor, School of Medicine, General Internal Medicine and Geriatrics, Addiction Medicine

**Research Project:** Dried Blood Spot Testing in Peer-assisted, Telemedicine-based Hepatitis C Treatment

## 2023 SCHOLARS AWARDED

**Angie Garinis**, Ph.D. M.S., School of Medicine, Otolaryngology and Audiology

**Primary Mentor:** Timothy Hullar, M.D., Director, Cochlear Implant Program; Professor, School of Medicine, Head and Neck Surgery

**Research Project:** Novel Kinematic Analyses for Detection of Aminoglycoside-Induced Vestibular Loss

**Mitzi Go**, M.D. M.C.R., School of Medicine, Pediatrics, Neonatology

**Primary Mentor:** Cindy McEvoy, M.D., M.C.R., Professor, School of Medicine, Pediatrics and Obstetrics and Gynecology

**Research Project:** Feasibility Study on Lung Growth and Function after Antenatal Steroid Exposure in Late Preterm Infants

**Josh Kaplan**, Ph.D., School of Medicine, Neurology

**Primary Mentor:** Barry Oken, M.D., Ph.D., Professor, School of Medicine, Neurology and Director, Oregon Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine in Neurological Disorders

**Research Project:** Feasibility and acceptability of stress induction, physiological data collection, and Mindfulness-Based Stress Reduction among combat veterans with PTSD

**Curtis Lachowicz**, M.D., School of Medicine, Internal Medicine, Hematology/Oncology

**Primary Mentor:** Jeffrey Tyner, Ph.D., Professor, School of Medicine, Cell Developmental and Cancer Biology

**Research Project:** Identifying and targeting measurable residual disease following azacitidine and venetoclax therapy in acute myeloid leukemia

**Bethany Sloane**, P.T., D.P.T., P.C.S, School of Medicine, Institute on Development & Disability

**Primary Mentors:** Melanie Fried-Oken, Ph.D., CCC-Sp., Professor, School of Medicine, Neurology and Pediatrics; and Sam Logan, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Kinesiology, Oregon State University

**Research Project:** Feasibility of a powered mobility intervention for young children with cerebral palsy, Gross Motor Function Classification System Level V

**Alex Speers**, N.D., M.S. School of Medicine, Neurology

**Primary Mentor:** Amala Soumyanath, Ph.D., B.Pharm., Professor, School of Medicine, Neurology

**Research Project:** Safety, tolerability, and pharmacokinetics of an oral Withania somnifera product in older adults

## 2022 SCHOLARS AWARDED

**Patrick Lyons**, M.D. M.Sc., School of Medicine, Pulmonary Critical Care & Allergy

**Primary Mentor:** Terri Hough, M.D., M.Sc., Professor and Director, School of Medicine, Pulmonary and Critical Care

**Research Project:** SOUL (Sepsis in Oncology: Understanding the Landscape)

## 2021 SCHOLARS AWARDED

**Raina Croff**, Ph.D., School of Medicine, Neurology

**Primary Mentor:** Jeffrey Kaye, M.D., Professor, School of Medicine, Neurology

**Research Project:** Efficacy of a Technology-Based Multimodal Brain Health Intervention for Older African Americans

**C. Estela Vasquez Guzman**, Ph.D., School of Medicine, Family Medicine

**Primary Mentors:** Erika Cottrell, Ph.D., Research Assistant Professor, School of Medicine, Family Medicine; John Heintzman, M.D., Associate Professor, School of Medicine, Family Medicine; and Cynthia Morris, Ph.D., M.P.H., Professor, School of Medicine, Medical Informatics and Clinical Epidemiology

**Research Project:** Taking a Life Course Perspective to Examine Critical Points of Intervention for Migrant Latinx Immigrant Women diagnosed with Cervical Cancer

**De'Sha Wolf**, Ph.D., Portland State University, School of Social Work and Social Research, PSU

**Primary Mentors:** Erika Cottrell, Ph.D., Research Assistant Professor, School of Medicine, Family Medicine; Cynthia Morris, Ph.D., M.P.H., Professor, School of Medicine, Medical Informatics and Clinical Epidemiology

**Research Project:** Interrupting the pain-stress-reactivity cycle in African American women with chronic pain

## 2020 SCHOLARS AWARDED

**Marian Dale**, M.D., M.C.R., School of Medicine, Neurology

**Primary Mentor:** Fay Horak, Ph.D., P.T., Professor, School of Medicine, Neurology

**Research Project:** Cerebellar TMS for postural instability in progressive supranuclear palsy

**Marcia Friedman**, M.D., School of Medicine, Arthritis and Rheumatic Diseases

**Primary Mentor:** Jim Rosenbaum, M.D., Professor, School of Medicine, Ophthalmology, Division of Arthritis and Rheumatic Diseases

**Research Project:** Endothelial cell biomarkers in the diagnosis of giant cell arteritis

## 2019 SCHOLARS AWARDED

**Ramon Barajas**, M.D., School of Medicine, Diagnostic Radiology and Advanced Imaging Research Center

**Primary Mentor:** Edward Neuwelt, M.D., Professor, School of Medicine, Neurology and Neurosurgery

**Research Project:** Therapeutic Efficacy by Modulating and Characterizing Glioblastoma Neuroinflammation

**Nicole Bowles**, Ph.D., School of Medicine, Oregon Institute of Occupational Health Sciences

**Primary Mentor:** Steven Shea, Ph.D., Professor and Director, Oregon Institute of Occupational Health Sciences

**Research Project:** Role of the Circadian System in Endocannabinoid Responses to an Acute Stress.

**Ted Braun**, M.D., Ph.D., School of Medicine, Hematology and Oncology

**Primary Mentor:** Brian Druker, M.D., Director, Knight Cancer Institute; Associate Dean for Oncology, School of Medicine

**Research Project:** Epigenetics of Mutation-Order-Dependent Phenotypes in Myeloid Leukemia

**Brian Jordan**, M.D., Ph.D., School of Medicine, Pediatric Neonatology

**Primary Mentor:** Cindy McEvoy, M.D., M.C.R., Professor, School of Medicine, Pediatrics and Obstetrics and Gynecology

**Research Project:** Trajectories in Lung Function in Extremely Premature Infants

**Dora Raymaker**, Ph.D., Portland State University, School of Social Work, Regional Research Institute for Human Services

**Primary Mentor:** Christina Nicolaidis, M.D., M.P.H., Portland State University, Professor, School of Social Work; Adjunct Associate Professor, OHSU School of Medicine

**Research Project:** Community Based Participatory Research to Explore Employer Training in Support of Autistic Professionals

**Saurabh Thosar**, Ph.D., School of Medicine, Oregon Institute of Occupational Health Sciences

**Primary Mentor:** Jonathan Lindner, M.D., M Lowell Edwards Professor, School of Medicine, Cardiovascular Medicine

**Research Project:** Circadian Rhythms in Vascular Function in Obesity

**Kirsten Wright**, N.D., M.S., School of Medicine, Neurology

**Primary Mentor:** Jeffrey Kaye, M.D., Professor, School of Medicine, Neurology

**Research Project:** Dietary Behavior and Nutritional Health in the Setting of Aging, Cognitive Impairment, and Alzheimer's Disease

## 2017 SCHOLARS AWARDED

**Amanda Bruegl**, M.D., M.S., School of Medicine, Obstetrics and Gynecology

**Primary Mentors:** Jackie Shannon, Ph.D., Associate Professor, School of Medicine, Public Health and Preventive Medicine; and Cynthia Morris, Ph.D., M.P.H., Professor, School of Medicine, Medical Informatics and Clinical Epidemiology

**Research Project:** Evaluation of HPV Subtyping Among American Indian/Alaska Native Women

**Ian Greenhouse**, Ph.D., University of Oregon, Human Physiology

**Primary Mentor:** Li-Shan Chou, Ph.D., University of Oregon, Department Head, Professor, Human Physiology

**Research Project:** Beyond Dopamine: Thalamic GABA and Motor Inhibitor in Health and Parkinson's Disease

**Andrew McHill**, Ph.D., School of Medicine, Occupational Health Sciences

**Primary Mentor:** Steven Shea, Ph.D., Professor, Occupational Health Sciences; Professor, OHSU-PSU School of Public Health

**Research Project:** Influence of Circadian Misalignment on Energy Expenditure and Glucose Regulation in Obstructive Sleep Apnea

**Sean Newsom**, Ph.D., Oregon State University, Biological and Population Health Sciences

**Primary Mentor:** Donald Jump, Ph.D., Professor, Oregon State University, Biological and Population Health Sciences

**Research Project:** Mechanisms of lipid-related skeletal muscle insulin resistance in obesity

**Olena Taratula**, Ph.D., Oregon State University, School of Pharmacy, Pharmaceutical Sciences

**Primary Mentor:** Wassana Yantasee, Ph.D., M.B.A., Professor, Biomedical Engineering

**Research Project:** Single Theranostic Agent for Image-Guided Surgery and Intraoperative Phototherapy

## 2014 SCHOLARS AWARDED

**Scott Chadderdon**, M.D., School of Medicine, Medicine, Cardiovascular Medicine

**Primary Mentor:** Jonathan Lindner, M.D., Professor, Medicine, Cardiology

**Research Project:** Physical Activity and Obesity: The Role of Eicosanoids in Regulating Capillary Perfusion and Vascular Insulin Resistance

**Brett Fling**, Ph.D., School of Medicine, Neurology

**Primary Mentor:** Fay Horak, Ph.D., P.T. Professor, School of Medicine, Neurology and Biomedical Engineering; Director of Balance Disorders Laboratory

**Research Project:** Neural mechanisms underlying freezing of gait resulting from Parkinsonism

**Donald Sullivan**, M.D., M.A., School of Medicine, Medicine, Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine

**Primary Mentor:** Linda Ganzini, M.D., M.P.H., Professor, School of Medicine, Psychiatry and VA Medical Center

**Research Project:** Impact of Specialist Palliative Care on Outcomes in Advanced Stage Lung Cancer Patients

### 2013 SCHOLAR AWARDED

**Kristen Mackiewicz Seghete**, Ph.D., School of Medicine, Psychiatry

**Primary Mentor:** Bonnie Nagel, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Psychiatry and Behavioral Neuroscience

**Research Project:** Neural Mechanisms of Cognitive Inhibition in Trauma-exposed Adolescents

### 2012 SCHOLARS AWARDED

**Laurie King**, Ph.D., P.T., School of Medicine, Neurology

**Primary Mentor:** Fay Horak, Ph.D., P.T. Professor, School of Medicine, Neurology and Biomedical Engineering; Director of Balance Disorder's Laboratory

**Research Project:** Wearable Sensor to Detect Postural Instability in People After Concussion

**Nicole Marshall**, M.D., M.C.R., School of Medicine, Obstetrics and Gynecology, Maternal-Fetal Medicine

**Primary Mentor:** Kent Thornburg, Ph.D., M. Lowell Edwards Chair, Professor and Chief, School of Medicine, Medicine, Division of Cardiovascular Medicine; Biomedical Engineering and Physiology and Pharmacology

**Research Project:** Maternal Body Composition Regulates Placental Function and Fetal Growth

**Elie Traer**, MD, PhD, School of Medicine, Medicine, Hematology and Medical Oncology

**Primary Mentor:** Brian Druker, MD, School of Medicine, Associate Dean for Oncology, JELD-WEN Chair of Leukemia Research; Director, Knight Cancer Institute

**Research Project:** Extrinsic Mechanisms of Kinase Resistance

### 2011 SCHOLARS AWARDED

**Andrea Debarber**, Ph.D., School of Medicine, Medicine, Physiology and Pharmacology

**Primary Mentor:** Robert Steiner, M.D., Professor, School of Medicine, Pediatrics and Molecular and Medical Genetics

**Research Project:** Newborn Screening for Cerebrotendinous Xanthomatosis: A Paradigm for Screening in Newborns with Bile Acids Synthesis Disorders.

**Seth O'Neal**, M.D., M.P.H., School of Medicine, Medicine, Public Health and Preventive Medicine

**Primary Mentor:** William Lambert, Ph.D., Associate Professor, School of Medicine, Public Health and Preventive Medicine

**Research Project:** Taenia Solium Infection among Refugees from Burma

#### 2010 SCHOLAR AWARDED

**Eric Adler**, M.D., School of Medicine, Medicine, Cardiovascular Medicine (now at University of California, Davis)

**Primary Mentor:** Markus Grompe, M.D. Professor, School of Medicine, Molecular and Medical Genetics

**Research Project:** Identification of novel signatures of arrhythmia using induced pluripotent stem cell derived cardiomyocytes

#### 2008 SCHOLARS AWARDED

**Jessina McGregor**, Ph.D., Oregon State University, School of Pharmacy, Pharmacy Practice

**Primary Mentor:** David H. Smith, Ph.D., M.H.A., R.Ph., Kaiser Permanente, Center for Health Research

**Research Project:** Antimicrobial resistance surveillance to improve empiric therapy in outpatients

**Melissa Nyendak**, M.D., M.H.S., School of Medicine, Medicine, Infectious Disease

**Primary Mentor:** David Lewinsohn, M.D., Ph.D., Associate Professor, School of Medicine, Medicine, Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine

**Research Project:** Definition of Human Immunodominant CD8 Antigens in Tuberculosis

#### 2007 SCHOLARS AWARDED

**Joshi Alumkal**, M.D., School of Medicine, Medicine, Hematology and Oncology, Prostate Research Program

**Primary Mentors:** Tomasz Beer, M.D., Associate Professor, Director, Prostate Cancer Research, OHSU Cancer Institute; Grover C. Bagby, M.D., Professor, School of Medicine, Medicine and Medical and Molecular Genetics

**Research Project:** The Elucidation of Clinically Significant Mechanisms of Gene Silencing

**Jessica Gregg**, M.D., Ph.D., School of Medicine, Medicine, General Internal Medicine

**Primary Mentor:** Thomas Becker, M.D., Ph.D., Professor and Chair, School of Medicine, Public Health and Preventive Medicine

**Research Project:** Health Beliefs, Level of Acculturation, and Pap Smear Use among Latinos from Mexico.

**Anh Nguyen-Huynh**, M.D., School of Medicine, Medicine, Otolaryngology

**Primary Mentor:** Peter Gillespie, Ph.D., Professor, School of Medicine, Otolaryngology and Cell Biology; Director, Neuroscience Graduate Program

**Research Project:** The Role of Endolymphatic Sac in the Pathophysiology of Meniere's disease.