Funding opportunities for new investigators

Elissa Hallem, Ph.D.

Department of Microbiology, Immunology, and Molecular Genetics

University of California, Los Angeles

Pathway to Independence Award (K99/R00)

- 1-2 years of postdoc funding, 2-3 years of PI funding (depending on institute)
- must apply within 5 years of your PhD date
- need publications! preferably 2 or more
- need substantial preliminary data
- need to form a mentoring committee
- focus on what you will gain from additional postdoctoral training

NIH Director's New Innovator Award (DP2)

- for new investigators
- \$300,000/year for 5 years
- need substantial preliminary data
- high risk, high reward projects
- emphasize why your research is exciting and transformative; can be riskier than an R01
- preliminary data should give reviewers confidence that your project will succeed

Private Foundation Funding

- start applying right away; data from your postdoc is usually sufficient
- most require institutional nominations
- the first step is a nomination from your department chair — let your chair know you want to be nominated!
- typically you must be within 3-5 years of starting your faculty position
- some foundations care about how much other funding you have

Private Foundation Funding

- your proposal should be about your most exciting data, and can be ambitious
- the format and requirements for each proposal will be different
- if possible, get examples from other PIs who successfully obtained the grant
- make sure you use *successful* proposals as examples!

Private Foundation Funding

- Alfred P. Sloan Foundation (bio)
- Searle Foundation (bio)
- Burroughs-Wellcome Fund (pathogenesis, other topics)
- Pew Scholars Program (bio)
- Whitehall Foundation (neuro)
- Klingenstein Foundation (neuro)
- Rita Allen Foundation (neuro, immunology, pain)
- Mallinckrodt (bio)
- McKnight Foundation (neuro)
- Packard Foundation (bio)
- HHMI Early Career Award (bio)
- New York Stem Cell Institute (neuro, stem cells)