

David Geffen School of
Medicine at UCLA

Grants that Foster New Areas of Research

2010 Oppenheimer Program

Sponsored by

**Gerald Oppenheimer
Foundation**



Oppenheimer Program

Program Goals

The overriding goal of the Oppenheimer Program is to provide seed money for worthwhile projects in health sciences at UCLA, for which alternative sources of funding are not readily available.

These modest seed grants support innovative projects that are in initial stages of development. The Oppenheimer Program is administered by the Senior Associate Dean for Research in the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA.



(G. Levey, G. Oppenheimer & L. Rome)

Seed Grants

There are four separate seed grant programs under the Oppenheimer Program:

1. Stein/Oppenheimer Endowment Awards
2. Clinical Translational Seed Grants
3. Gerald Oppenheimer Family Foundation Center for the Prevention of Eye Disease Program
4. Seed Grant Program in Complementary, Alternative and Integrative Medicine (CAIM)

A single application process is used for all four. Faculty may submit only one application each year.

Stein/Oppenheimer Endowment Awards program provides up to \$30,000 to enable scientists, clinicians, and others to generate preliminary data for use in subsequent applications to federal and private funding organizations. It is open to academic senate faculty of all ranks.

The Stein/Oppenheimer Endowment was established to further medical research, education, and patient care at the UCLA Center for the Health Sciences. Through the support of specific projects, these awards enhance UCLA's commitment to comprehensive excellence in the biomedical field.

Since the program's inception in 1990, 234 seed grants have been awarded. To date, an investment of approximately \$4.5 million has generated more than \$90 million in new research grants to UCLA, a 20-fold return!

The commonality of pursuing pioneering investigations has created a unique bond for the awardees, even though they come from many different paths within the biomedical community. Each year, a Stein/Oppenheimer reception is held that brings together current and past grant recipients with the program's benefactors and representatives. The camaraderie at these gatherings is a special benefit.

Clinical Translational Seed Grants provides awards up to \$30,000 to enable scientists, clinicians, and others to generate clinical and translational preliminary data for use in subsequent applications to federal and private funding organizations. It is open to academic sen-

ate faculty of all ranks in the School of Medicine.

Gerald Oppenheimer Family Foundation Center for Prevention of Eye Disease Program, established in 2002, is committed to the discovery of agents and methods to prevent ophthalmic diseases. Areas of study include genetic and environmental factors that may cause eye disease and pharmacological and natural agents to treat eye problems before they happen. The hope is to address issues early in life in order to prevent rather than cure. The Center complements an expanding array of research in many other fields at the University that are applying rigorous scientific methods to study novel approaches to health care. The maximum amount awarded is \$30,000 for one year.

Seed Grant Program in Complementary, Alternative and Integrative Medicine (CAIM) is administered in association with the Center for Neurobiology of Stress. This program accepts applications for pilot and feasibility projects. Funding up to \$30,000 will be available for high-quality interdisciplinary basic science, translational, or clinical research addressing various aspects of complementary, alternative, and integrative medicine. Proposals can address mechanistic or outcomes aspects of CAIM, with an emphasis on mind/body interactions and traditional Chinese medicine.

Mr. & Mrs. Gerald H. Oppenheimer

The primary benefactors of the Oppenheimer Program are Mr. & Mrs. Gerald H. Oppenheimer. The Oppenheimer name is a familiar one at UCLA. Gerald (Jerry) has been vitally involved with the University since moving to Southern California in the mid 1960s. He has assumed a leadership role in shaping and supporting the future of medical research at UCLA. The quality

that distinguishes Mr. Oppenheimer is his participatory style of philanthropy.

Creation of the Stein/Oppenheimer Endowment Awards provides a perfect example. He was not content to be just the program's generous benefactor. The most urgent needs of the UCLA Center for the Health Sciences were investigated, and the Award was carefully crafted to meet the identified priorities by providing seed money grants. Due to this success, Mr. Oppenheimer followed up with the Prevention of Eye Disease and CAIM Programs. Gail and Jerry Oppenheimer continue to be philanthropic champions for UCLA.



(Gail & Gerald Oppenheimer)

Application Procedures

Interested parties apply for seed grants from the Oppenheimer Program by submitting a proposal that contains:

- Specific seed grant program (Stein/Oppenheimer Endowment Awards, Clinical Translational Seed Grants, Prevention of Eye Disease, or CAIM)
- Title of project, name(s) and CV of Principal Investigator(s)
- Brief Summary of research proposal (no more than 150 words)
- Lay summary (no more than 75 words)
- Amount requested and budget justification
- Other funding sources of PI(s)

- Plans for support of the project beyond the grant period
- No more than five pages of text, single-spaced (no exception) for research description
- Original and 5 copies of the proposal package (*CAIM applicants is only required 1 copy of the proposal package*)

Additional Requirements for Stein/ Oppenheimer Endowment Awards and Clinical Translational Seed Grants:

Award recipients are required to present at the annual Stein/Oppenheimer Poster Presentation in the fall within 12 months of receiving the grant. Funding cannot be used to support the PI's salary.

Additional Eligibility Requirements for CAIM:

- Applicant must hold an M.D., Ph.D., or equivalent degree and have at least two years of postgraduate research training and permanent visa status.
- Postdoctoral fellows without current or past NIH or related agency research support (including career development awards) serving as PIs, who are in the process of establishing an independent research program, are encouraged to apply.
- Established investigators with existing grant support, who have not been involved in research related to CAIM and want to enter this field of research, especially those who bring novel expertise to the field, should also apply.
- For further information, visit the Website at <http://www.uclacns.org>.

Complete proposals are due by September 24th, 2009, by 4:00 p.m. in 12-096 CHS. CAIM applicants only must also submit electronically to deborah.ackerman@ucla.edu.

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