



THE PEW CHARITABLE TRUSTS

Pew Biomedical Programs Informational Webinar

January 15, 2019

Objectives and Agenda

- Pew Charitable Trusts background
- Pew Biomedical Programs background
 - Pew scholars program
 - Pew-Stewart scholars program
- Timeline for upcoming 2020 award cycle
- Institutional nominee selection
- Application and grants portal
- Terms of award
- Q&A

Biomedical Programs Staff



Kara Coleman
Project Director
kcoleman@pewtrusts.org
(215) 575-4925



Jennifer Villa
Principal Associate
jvilla@pewtrusts.org
(215) 575-4851



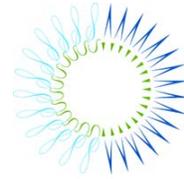
Sara Strickland
Officer
sstrickland@pewtrusts.org
(215) 575-4860



Hannah Romm
Associate
hromm@pewtrusts.org
(215) 575-8140

Carol McClellan
Associate, Grants Contracts Services
cmcclellan@pewtrusts.org
(215) 575-4716

The Pew Charitable Trusts



- An independent nonprofit organization founded by the sons and daughters of Sun Oil Company founder Joseph N. Pew and his wife, Mary Anderson Pew, in 1948
- Mission:
 - Improve public policy by conducting rigorous analysis, linking diverse interests to pursue common cause and insisting on tangible results
 - Inform the public by providing useful data that illuminate the issues and trends shaping our world
 - Invigorate civic life by encouraging democratic participation and strong communities
- Pew's work covers topics from public opinion research, arts and culture, the environment, health, to state and consumer policies



Pew Biomedical Programs

- Pew has a decades-long commitment to support groundbreaking research by promising early-career biomedical scientists in the United States and Latin America
 - **Pew Biomedical Scholars Program**
 - **Pew-Stewart Scholars Program for Cancer Research**
 - **Pew Latin American Fellows Program**
- Today, Pew-supported researchers belong to a vibrant community of close to 1000 members



Pew Biomedical Scholars Program



- The program provides funding to early-career investigators of outstanding promise in science relevant to the advancement of human health
- Founded in 1985, the program has awarded funding to 679 scholars in the biomedical sciences. For the upcoming 2020 cycle, 22 promising investigators are awarded
- The program supports independent researchers in their first 3 years of appointment at the assistant professor level
- Current grant level is \$300,000; \$75,000 per year for a 4-year period
- The 17-member national advisory committee provides scientific leadership to the program, reviews all applications, and identifies candidates to be recommended to Pew's board to be named scholars
- In order to apply, individuals must be nominated from an approved academic institution

Pew-Stewart Scholars Program



- The program provides funding to early-career investigators whose research will accelerate discovery and advance progress to a cure for **cancer**
- Founded in 2014 through the partnership between Pew and the Alexander and Margaret Stewart Trust—the program supports five investigators each year
- The program supports independent researchers in their first 3 years of appointment at the assistant professor level
- Current grant level is \$300,000; \$75,000 per year for a 4-year period
- The 5-member national advisory committee provides scientific leadership to the program, reviews all applications, and identifies candidates to be recommended to Pew’s board to be named Pew-Stewart scholars
- In order to apply, individuals must be nominated from an approved academic institution

Key Dates for the 2020 Cycle

Month	Pew scholar and Pew-Stewart program
Late April 2019	Invitation sent from Pew to institutions with nomination instructions
June 14, 2019	Institutional nomination due
Early July 2019	Nominee is contacted by Pew with application information
July 15, 2019	Application portal opens
October 10, 2019	Pew-Stewart application portal closes
October 17, 2019	Pew Scholars application portal closes
Nov-Feb	Review in process
March 2020	Final selection
April 2020	Applicant is notified of decision
June 2020	Pew board approves grantees and they are publicly announced
August 2020	Grant is administered

Institutional nomination: Invitation

- In order to nominate an individual to the Pew Scholars or Pew-Stewart programs, your institution must be on our approved list
 - 184 approved institutions for the Pew Scholars program
 - <https://www.pewtrusts.org/en/projects/pew-biomedical-scholars/program-details>
 - 83 approved institutions for the Pew-Stewart program
 - <https://www.pewtrusts.org/en/projects/pew-stewart-scholars-for-cancer-research/program-details>
- Invitations are sent to institution presidents and individuals in the sponsored research offices
- Institutions who are not on the list should contact Pew for information on making a formal request to be added

Institutional nomination: Eligibility

- Must hold a doctorate or medical degree in a field related to biomedical sciences
- Must hold full-time appointment at the rank of an assistant professor or equivalent by the application close date
 - Research Assistant Professor, Adjunct Assistant Professor, Assistant Professor Research Track, Visiting Professor or Instructor are not eligible
- Must have been in the assistant level appointment for less than 3 years as of June 14, 2019
 - 3 year limit stands regardless of changing institutions
 - There is flexibility for nominees who have taken maternity/paternity leave during the first 3-4 years of their appointment
- May be nominated *only* twice for a particular program
- The same candidate *cannot* be nominated to both the Pew scholars and Pew-Stewart program in the same year. A candidate can be nominated to Pew scholars one year and Pew-Stewart the next
- Candidates with dual appointments at affiliated institutions can only be nominated from one institution (eg: cannot be nominated by Harvard one year and Dana Farber the next)

Institutional nomination: Scope of Research

Pew scholars program

- Candidates conducting original basic and/or translational research related to the biomedical sciences are encouraged to apply
 - This includes “traditional” fields like genetics, immunology, neuroscience, cancer biology etc. However, candidates from areas such as computational science, chemistry, engineering, and physics are also strongly encouraged to apply
 - For more information on the type of research that Pew scholars are working on, please visit the scholars directory on our website: <https://www.pewtrusts.org/en/projects/pew-biomedical-scholars/directory-of-pew-scholars>
- Public health projects and those that are solely clinical research are *not* within the scope of Pew-funded research
- In the 2018 class of scholars, the following fields are represented
 - Chemistry, biophysics, virology, immunology, cancer biology, microbiology, molecular biology, neuroscience, biochemistry, computational biology, structural biology

Institutional nomination: Scope of Research (cont.)

Examples of scholars in unique fields

- Hosea Nelson, 2018 scholar, UCLA, chemistry
 - Designing systems that can catalyze chemical reactions within cells in response to changes such as gene activation
- Trevor Bedford, 2016 scholar, Fred Hutchinson, computational biology
 - Developing tools to rapidly characterize circulating viruses such as influenza to determine how they evolve and better predict seasonal strains
- Sohini Ramachandran, 2012 scholar, Brown, evolutionary biology
 - Uses mathematical modeling and computer simulations to make inferences about human population histories based on individuals' genetic variation



Institutional nomination: Scope of Research (cont.)

Pew-Stewart program

- Proposed research for the award *must* be **cancer focused**
- Candidates whose work is based on biomedical principles, but brings in concepts and theories from more diverse fields related to cancer, are encouraged to apply
- For more information on the type of research that Pew-Stewart scholars are working on, please visit the Pew-Stewart scholars directory on our website:
<https://www.pewtrusts.org/en/projects/pew-stewart-scholars-for-cancer-research/directory-of-stewart-scholars>

Criteria for both programs

- Successful applications should not look like typical R01 grant applications with incremental research steps and safe hypotheses supported by existing data
- We support truly out-of-the-box, brilliant, early-career science which may accelerate and advance progress to understanding aspects of biomedical and/or cancer research and may not be fundable through other more typical funding mechanisms
- We support the scientist, in addition to the research plan. Letters of reference and included essays are critical pieces of the application

Institutional nomination: Selection process

Program advertisement

- Award announcement should be distributed across **all** eligible departments and centers via web postings, announcement boards, and/or by direct email

Internal selection committee

- Institutions should convene an internal review committee for the selection of the nominee
 - Current Pew/Pew-Stewart scholars and alumni of the program make good candidates for the committee
 - The committee should be diverse and comprised of researchers from varied scientific fields

Institutional nomination: Submission

- Nominee information is submitted on **SurveyMonkey**. This link is within the original invitation sent to each institution
- What do we ask for?
 - Institutional sponsored research contact information
 - Award announcement distribution method
 - Internal selection committee information
 - Nominee contact information
- A letter from departmental chair or institutional sign-off is *not* needed

Application and Grants Portal

- Program staff will contact the nominee directly regarding instructions for the application portal a week prior to the day the application opens
- What is required in the application?

Curriculum Vitae info	Contact info, education and work experience, publications and awards
Self Assessment	Research contribution, novel aspect of research, and personal significance
Letters of reference	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Graduate school advisor or equivalent2. Postdoctoral advisor or equivalent3. Scientific reference
Proposal	6 page research proposal
Publications of significance	Attach 3 publications and information on their significance

* We do not require budget information in our applications

Distinction and similarities between Pew scholars and Pew-Stewart programs

- Applicant eligibility is the same between the two programs
- A Pew-Stewart nominee must propose a project that is cancer-focused or relevant. The nominee can be from other departments that are not part of the cancer center, as long as his/her research is on cancer
- A Pew scholar nominee can also propose a cancer-related project
- The same candidate *cannot* be nominated to both programs in the same year. If the institution has dual nominations, it must choose a distinct nominee for each program.
 - Institutions with dual nominations will receive TWO invitations, one for each program
- Candidates are reviewed by separate advisory committees

Terms of award (Part 1)

- \$75,000 per year for four years will be provided to the sponsoring institution (\$300,000 total), subject to annual review of progress reports
- Although we provide four years of funding, the grant term is 5 years, allowing an additional year to spend out the funds. If funds are not expensed entirely at the end of 5 years, the grantee may request a no-cost extension to extend one additional year
- Financial reports on grant expenditures and narrative reports on research progress are required annually

Terms of award (Part 2)

- The funds may be used for personnel, equipment, supplies, or travel directly related to the scholar's research
 - No more than \$12,500 of the award may be used for the scholar's salary and benefits in a given year, or \$50,000 total during the grant period
 - No more than 8 percent of the total award (\$24,000) may be allocated for indirect costs
- Attendance at the Pew biomedical programs annual meeting is required during the duration of the award (4 years)

Questions?

Email: scholarsapp@pewtrusts.org

Pew Latin American Fellows Program webinar on February 13th

Pew Scholar National advisory committee

Craig C. Mello, Ph.D.- Chair

Investigator, Howard Hughes Medical Institute
University of Massachusetts

Pamela Bjorkman, Ph.D.

Investigator, Howard Hughes Medical Institute
California Institute of Technology

Jeffery Cox, Ph.D.

University of California, Berkeley

Titia De Lange, Ph.D.

The Rockefeller University

Claude Desplan, Ph.D.

New York University

Juan Carlos Izpisua Belmonte, Ph.D.

The Salk Institute for Biological Studies

Christine Jacobs-Wagner, Ph.D.

Yale University

Jennifer Lippincott-Schwartz, Ph.D.

Janelia Research Campus,
Howard Hughes Medical Institute

Richard M. Locksley, M.D.

Investigator, Howard Hughes Medical Institute
University of California, San Francisco

Ruslan Medzhitov, Ph.D.

Investigator, Howard Hughes Medical Institute
Yale University

Markus Meister, Ph.D.

California Institute of Technology

Tom Muir, Ph.D.

Princeton University

Lee Niswander, Ph.D.

University of Colorado, Boulder

Nipam Patel, Ph.D.

Director, Marine Biological Laboratory
The University of Chicago

Sandra Schmid, Ph.D.

University of Texas Southwestern Medical
Center

Kevan Shokat, Ph.D.

Investigator, Howard Hughes Medical Institute
University of California, San Francisco

Gina Turrigiano, Ph.D.

Brandeis University

Pew-Stewart National advisory committee

Peter M. Howley, M.D.- Chair
Harvard Medical School

Tony R. Hunter, Ph.D.
Director, Salk Institute Cancer Center
Salk Institute for Biological Studies

Nickolas Papadopoulos, Ph.D.
Director of Translational Genetics
Ludwig Center for Cancer Genetics & Therapeutics
Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center

Helen Piwnica-Worms, Ph.D.
MD Anderson Cancer Center

Louis M. Staudt, M.D., Ph.D.*
Center for Cancer Research, National Cancer
Institute
National Institutes of Health

**Dr. Staudt is serving in his personal capacity*

Pew Alumni Nomination Process

- Each May, all Pew scholar alumni are contacted by the program office and encouraged to submit a nominee they feel should apply for the program
 - Nominees are not automatically invited to apply, but rather, the nominations must go through a triage process
 - Alumni complete a 2-page nomination form which is reviewed by a committee of Pew scholars alumni
- We typically get ~100 nominations and ~35 are invited to submit an application to the program
 - Once selected, both the nominee and the institution are notified
- Nominations should *not* be solicited by interested applicants