



Alzheimer's Disease Research Grant Advisory Board

Ed and Ethel Moore Alzheimer's Disease Research Program

Annual Report 2015-2016

Rick Scott
Governor

John H. Armstrong, MD, FACS
Surgeon General and Secretary of Health

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Ed and Ethel Moore Alzheimer's Disease Research Program Overview

The Ed and Ethel Moore Alzheimer's Disease Research Program (Program) was created by the 2014 Florida Legislature and signed by Governor Rick Scott. The purpose of this Program, managed by the Florida Department of Health (DOH), is to fund research leading to the prevention of or cure for Alzheimer's disease. The long-term goals of the Program are to:

- a) Improve the health of Floridians by researching improved prevention measures, diagnoses methods, treatments, and cures for Alzheimer's disease.
- b) Expand the foundation of knowledge relating to the prevention, diagnosis, treatment, and cure for Alzheimer's disease.
- c) Stimulate economic activity in the state in areas related to Alzheimer's disease research.

Annually, the Alzheimer's Disease Research Grant Advisory Board submits a fiscal-year progress report, including the following information as required by section 381.82, Florida Statutes:

- a) A list of research projects supported by grants awarded under the Program.
- b) A list of recipients of Program grants.
- c) A list of publications in peer-reviewed journals involving research supported by grants awarded under the Program.
- d) The state ranking and total amount of Alzheimer's disease research funding currently flowing into the state from the National Institutes of Health.
- e) New grants for Alzheimer's disease research, which were funded based on research supported by grants or fellowships awarded under this Program.
- f) Progress toward programmatic goals, particularly in the prevention, diagnosis, treatment, and cure for Alzheimer's disease.
- g) Recommendations to further the mission of the Program.

Alzheimer's Disease Research Grant Advisory Board Overview

On October 1, 2014, the State Surgeon General and Secretary of Health, John H. Armstrong, MD, FACS, appointed 11 people to the Alzheimer's Disease Research Grant Advisory Board. The Advisory Board, authorized in Section 381.82, Florida Statutes, consists of: two gerontologists, two geriatric psychiatrists, two geriatricians, two neuroscientists, and three neurologists.

The Advisory Board advises the State Surgeon General as to the scope of the research Program and shall submit its recommendations for proposals to be funded to the State Surgeon General by December 15 of each year. Grants shall be awarded by the State Surgeon General, after consultation with the Advisory Board, on the basis of scientific merit. Other responsibilities of the Advisory Board may include, but are not limited to, providing advice on Program priorities and emphases; assisting in the development of appropriate linkages to nonacademic entities, such as volunteer organizations, health care delivery institutions, industry, government agencies, and public officials; and providing oversight regarding mechanisms for the dissemination of research results.

Alzheimer's Disease Research Grant Advisory Board Members as of December 10, 2015
(Biographical Statements or Curriculum Vitae available upon request.)

Gerontologists:

Jacqueline C. Wiltshire, PhD
Assistant Professor, Health Policy and Management, College of Public Health, University of South Florida

Leilani Doty, PhD, Assistant Chair
Director, Cognitive and Memory Disorder Clinics and Associate Scientist, Department of Neurology, University of Florida

Geriatric Psychiatrists:

Amanda Smith, MD
Medical Director, USF Health Byrd Alzheimer's Institute, University of South Florida

Frederick Schaerf, MD, PhD
Director, Neuropsychiatric Research Center of Southwest Florida

Geriatricians:

Ken Brummel-Smith, MD, Chair
Charlotte Edwards Maguire Professor, and Chair, Department of Geriatrics, Florida State University

Mariana B. Dangiolo, MD
Assistant Professor of Family Medicine and Geriatrics, University of Central Florida

Neuroscientists:

Todd E. Golde, MD, PhD
Director, Center for Translational Research in Neurodegenerative Disease and Professor, Department of Neuroscience, College of Medicine, University of Florida

Leonard Petrucelli, PhD
Chair, Department of Neuroscience and Professor of Neuroscience, Mayo Clinic Jacksonville

Neurologists:

Ranjan Duara, MD
Medical Director, Wien Center for Alzheimer's Disease and Memory Disorders, Mount Sinai Medical Center

Neill Graff-Radford, MD
Professor of Neurology, Mayo Clinic Jacksonville

Clinton Wright, MD
Associate Professor of Neurology, Scientific Director, Evelyn F. McKnight Brain Institute, University of Miami

**Table 1
Ed and Ethel Moore Alzheimer's Disease Research Program Grant Awards, Fiscal Year 2015-2016**

Grant Recipients	Research Project	Institution	Award Amount
Melissa E. Murray	Clinicopathologic and Genetic Differences of Neurodegenerative Health Disparities in the State of Florida Brain Bank	Mayo Clinic Florida	\$250,000.00
James E. Galvin	Caring For You (C4U): A Novel Intervention to Improve Caregiver and Patient Outcomes and Quality of Life	Florida Atlantic University	\$250,000.00
Linda B. Cottler	Linking Older Adults from the Community in Florida to Memory Screening and Related Health Research	University of Florida	\$250,000.00
John D. Fryer	Clusterin Prevention of Alzheimer's Pathology	Mayo Clinic Florida	\$250,000.00
Meredith Wicklund	Consortium for Diagnostic Algorithm with Novel Markers in Early Alzheimer's Disease	University of Florida	\$250,000.00
Claes Wahlestedt	Epigenetic Modulation of Alzheimer's Disease Hallmarks	University of Miami	\$250,000.00
Antonio Terracciano	Optimization of "Powerful Tools" for Caregivers of Dementia Patients	Florida State University	\$250,000.00
Ann L. Horgas	An Analgesic Trial to Reduce Pain and Behavior Disruptions in Nursing Home Residents with Alzheimer's Disease	University of Florida	\$249,436.00
Sara J. Czaja	A Non-Pharmalogical Intervention for Patients with Alzheimer's Disease and Family Caregivers	University of Miami	\$249,096.00
John A. Lucas	Neuropsychological Norms for Ethnically Diverse Florida Elders	Mayo Clinic Florida	\$200,000.00
Jungsu Kim	Targeting ApoE for Alzheimer's Disease Drug Discovery	Mayo Clinic Florida	\$200,000.00

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Ed and Ethel Moore Alzheimer's Disease Research Program Grant Awards, Fiscal Year 2015-2016**

Grant Recipients	Research Project	Institution	Award Amount
Dawn Bowers	Pilot Intervention in Mild Cognitive Impairment: A Proof of Concept Study with Transcranial Near Infrared Stimulation	University of Florida	\$100,000.00
David Loewenstein	Post-Doctoral Fellowship Training Program in Cross-Cultural Neuropsychological Assessment and Development of Novel Tools to Assess Preclinical Alzheimer's Disease	University of Miami	\$88,470.00
David G. Meckes, Jr.	Blood Exosomes and Neurodegenerative Disease	Florida State University	\$81,499.00
Rodney Guttman	Enhancing Detection of Alzheimer's Disease Biomarkers Using Phage-Derived Quantification (PdQ)	University of West Florida	\$81,499.00

*Please note that in Fiscal Year 2014-2015, 11 applications were funded while in Fiscal Year 2015-2016, 15 applications were funded.

Florida’s Ranking in Total Amount of Alzheimer’s Disease Research Funding Currently Flowing into the State from the National Institutes of Health.

Table 2: Federal Research Funding from the 2014 reporting period

State	NIH Funding	Rank
CA	\$107,820,760.00	1
MA	\$60,560,351.00	2
NY	\$53,501,314.00	3
MO	\$48,695,284.00	4
PA	\$42,242,912.00	5
TX	\$29,382,046.00	6
IL	\$24,748,334.00	7
WA	\$18,672,874.00	8
MD	\$16,425,712.00	9
MN	\$14,174,851.00	10
FL	\$12,749,864.00	11
CT	\$10,727,749.00	12
NC	\$10,542,636.00	13
IN	\$7,898,854.00	14
KY	\$7,228,850.00	15
GA	\$6,778,735.00	16
WI	\$6,100,447.00	17
OH	\$5,268,081.00	18
OR	\$4,986,091.00	19
TN	\$4,745,249.00	20

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*Please note that in the 2013 reporting period, Florida ranked 13th in the nation in federal research funding for Alzheimer’s disease. In the 2014 reporting period, Florida’s national ranking increased to 11th and total federal funding for Alzheimer’s disease increased by \$1,659,401.00. Data from the 2015 reporting period is forthcoming.

Total Follow-on Funding Awards Reported by Grantees:

(New grants for Alzheimer’s disease research, which were funded based on research supported by grants awarded under the Program.)

Grants from the first cycle of funding (2014-2015) have just finished and there have been no reports of follow-on funding from grantees. However, as required in the grant terms and conditions, reports of follow-on funding will be forwarded to DOH and listed in the annual report corresponding to the year the follow-on funding was received.

Publications in Peer-Reviewed Journals:

Grants from the first cycle of funding (2014-2015) have just finished and there have been no reports of peer-reviewed publications from grantees to date. However, as required in the grant terms and conditions, published articles will be forwarded to DOH and listed in the annual report corresponding to the year the article was published. Additionally, citations of articles published as a result of funding from the Program will be posted on DOH's website.

Progress toward Programmatic Goals:

The Advisory Board is currently finalizing a research agenda with specific milestones and measurable objectives within a determined timeline that will:

- Focus on creating research collaborations across the state.
- Make Florida the premier state for Alzheimer's disease prevention, diagnosis, treatments, and ultimately cures for this disease.
- Incorporate the research agenda into all funding opportunities to demonstrate the return on investment to the Florida Legislature.

The research agenda is expected to be completed in February 2016.

Recommendations from the Alzheimer's Disease Research Grant Advisory Board to Further the Mission of the Program:

Due to the length of time required to complete research in the field of Alzheimer's disease, it is difficult for researchers to complete their projects within the limited timeframe that a General Revenue appropriation allows (one year or funding reverts). Several award recipients expressed concern about completing their research goals in the limited time frame allotted. The Advisory Board recommends future appropriations made to the Ed and Ethel Moore Alzheimer's Disease Research Program be allocated in a way that could be carried forward for up to five years, as this would allow research projects to span multiple years.

Additionally, the Advisory Board requests that 10% of the funds allocated to this Program be made available for administrative expenses, which is consistent with other research programs administered by the Department. These funds will be used to recruit peer-reviewers to assist the Advisory Board in their evaluation of grant applications. Second, these funds will be utilized to obtain a high-quality online application intake and review system to generate detailed reports that the Advisory Board can use to track its progress toward achieving the goals outlined in the upcoming research agenda. Moreover, a high-quality online system will allow the citizens of Florida to track their return on investment from funds allocated to this Program. Finally, these funds will allow for Advisory Board members to be reimbursed for travel expenses resulting from attending in-person meetings, which will increase Advisory Board member participation.

References:

Section 381.82, Florida Statutes,
http://www.leg.state.fl.us/statutes/index.cfm?mode=View%20Statutes&SubMenu=1&App_mode=Display_Statute&Search_String=381.82&URL=0300-0399/0381/Sections/0381.82.html