

Twelve Yale faculty receive grants for work with embryonic stem cells

Yale UniversityYale University

Twelve stem cell researchers from Yale received \$6.75 million from the Connecticut Stem Cell Fund, according to figures supplied by the state's Department of Health.

The amount was the largest ever awarded to Yale since the state legislature in 2005 designated \$100 million over 10 years to promote stem cell research in Connecticut. Connecticut was the third state to pass legislation authorizing use of funds to study human embryonic stem cells.

"Stem cell researchers at Yale very much appreciate Connecticut's vision and determination in supporting this research despite the challenging economy," said Haifan Lin, director of the Yale Stem Cell Center. "In return, our work — along with research conducted at the University of Connecticut and Wesleyan — has made our state a leader in stem cell research and already positively impacted the state economy."

Yale scientists who received major grants and their research goals are:

Eugene Redmond — \$1.8 million for treatment of Parkinson's disease using neurons derived from stem cells.

Valerie Horsley — \$750,000 for generation of skin cells.

Jeffrey Kocsis — \$750,000 for use of embryonic cells to remyelinate spinal cord tissue.

Yibing Qyang — \$750,000 for generation of tissue-engineered blood vessels.

Natalia Ivanova — \$750,000 for the study of how embryonic stem cells control cell fate.

In-Hyun Park — \$750,000 for regeneration of neurons.

In addition to the \$6.75 million, the Yale Stem Cell Center received a \$500,000 grant to support its core facilities.

Yale faculty also receiving seed grants for research projects were Frank Slack, Eric Dufresne, Yongming Ren, Zheng Wang, Julie Ann Sosa and Jing Zhou.

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