Press Release

HFSP to accelerate frontier research in 15 new laboratories

The International Human Frontier Science Program Organization (HFSPO) announced today 15 Career Development Awards (CDA). The awards are for the most highly creative and accomplished holders of HFSP Fellowships, and allow the awardees to continue frontier research in the life sciences. The winners accomplished their postdoctoral research in Austria, Germany, Sweden, Switzerland and the USA and by means of the CDA will start their laboratories in China, France, Israel, Germany, Japan, Australia and Italy. Following a rigorous selection in a global competition, the future for these young scientists could not be brighter.

Their research projects fall right on the frontier of the life sciences as winners dare to modify DNA methylation of specific cell types to influence gene expression, try to process social information of freely behaving animals to decipher adaptive modulation of underlying genetic circuits, or attempt to restore lymphocyte activity in tumor micro environments.

The CDA is a special feature of the HFSP Fellowship programs because it offers fellows the possibility to return to their home countries or to move to another HFSP member country after their research abroad. They receive $300,000 spread over three years to assist frontier research in their new lab as an independent researcher.

The 15 winners of the 2019 HFSP Career Development Award, their research institutions and research programs, are:

Huan BAO (China)
University of Science and Technology of China, Hefei, China
Probing the molecular mechanism of SNARE-complex disassembly by NSF

Felice Alessio BAVA (Italy)
Curie Institute, Paris-Orsay, France
T-lymphocyte exhaustion in the 3D tumor microenvironment

Sara CUYLEN-HAERING (Germany)
EMBL, Heidelberg, Germany
Protein surfactants - a general principle for cellular organization?

Raffaella DI MICCO (Italy)
Fondazione Centro San Raffaele, Milan, Italy
Elucidating the biological impact of precise genome editing in hematopoietic stem cells

Julien FOURNIER (France)
Université de la Sorbonne, Paris, France
Spatial representation and sensory processing in cortical areas and hippocampus during navigation

Naama GEVA-ZATORSKY (Israel)
Technion - Israel Institute of Technology, Haifa, Israel
The gut microbiota diversity and its physiological significance

Romain GIBEAUX (France)
University of Rennes / CNRS, Rennes, France
Understanding the structural basis regulating spindle size and architecture

Ryosuke KOJIMA (Japan)
The University of Tokyo, Tokyo, Japan
Exploiting exosome biology to design polyvalent targeting strategies for in situ cell programming

Ying LI (China)
Chinese Institute for Brain Research, Beijing, China
Neuronal processing of social information in freely behaving animals

Jinhong LUO (China)
Central China Normal University, Wuhan, China
Neural mechanisms of vocal production control in echolocating bats

Takayasu MIKUNI (Japan)
Niigata University Brain Research Institute, Niigata, Japan
Molecular mechanisms for protein synthesis dependent, long-term memory

Alberto ROSELLO DIEZ (Spain)
Monash University, Clayton, Australia
Chasing entelechy: cell interactions and collective behaviours underlying organ growth regulation

Kurt SCHMOLLER (Austria)
Helmholtz Zentrum, Munich, Germany
Coordination of mitochondria biogenesis and cell growth

Yonatan STELZER (Israel)
Weizmann Institute of Science, Rehovot, Israel
Revealing the functional roles of cell-specific DNA methylation following implantation

Amit ZEISEL (Israel)
Technion - Israel Institute of Technology, Haifa, Israel
A molecular approach to brain sexual dimorphism: cell types and circuits in the medial amygdala

Full lists of the 2019 HFSP awards are available at http://www.hfsp.org/awardees/newly-awarded

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