

## **FY 2009-2010 Biomedical Research Grants Announced, Special Call for Applications to be Released**

The Florida Department of Health is pleased to announce that 64 Florida scientists will receive research grants totaling over \$21.4 million beginning July 1, 2009 contingent upon the Governor's approval of the budget and associated legislation. The larger than usual number of awards was made possible by a recent decision by the Florida Legislature to dedicate up to \$50 million of the state tobacco user fee increase to the James & Esther King Biomedical Research Program and the Bankhead-Coley Cancer Research Program in FY 2009-2010.

The new awards were selected from 123 grant applications submitted in February in response to two FY 2009-2010 Calls for Grant Applications; 58 sought funding from the James and Esther King Biomedical Research Program and 65 applied for Bankhead-Coley Cancer Research Program grants. Submitted by Florida researchers from 20 institutions, the total funding requested was over \$44.1 million.

Between February and late April, the Lytmos Group, Inc., arranged scientific peer reviews of the scientific merit of each application by independent subject matter experts from outside Florida. On May 8, 2009, the Biomedical Research Advisory Council met to review the merit scores and make funding recommendations to the State Surgeon General, who makes the final funding decisions. In keeping with past practice, Council members considered this information without knowledge of the identity of researchers and their institutions in order to prevent conflicts of interest. A complete list of projects selected for award is included along with this announcement.

Based on their commitment to fund the best science in the state, the Council recommended offering a second round of funding, rather than funding more of the applications from this competition. Consequently, the Department plans to release a special Call for Grant Applications in August 2009 for awards that are expected to begin January 1, 2010.

More information about the special Call for Grant Applications, along with other Program information (including more details about the most recent competition) is available on the Program website at [www.floridabiomed.com](http://www.floridabiomed.com). The Programs' annual reports are also valuable sources of program information. The Lytmos Group can be contacted via e-mail at [programsupport@floridabiomed.com](mailto:programsupport@floridabiomed.com) and the Florida Biomedical Research Programs e-mail is [fbrp@doh.state.fl.us](mailto:fbrp@doh.state.fl.us).

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## 2009-2010 James and Esther King Program Grantees

### Bridge Grants

Grantee	Institution	Title	Award Amount	Award Term
Cesar Borlongan	University of South Florida	Preclinical STEPS Consortium	\$ 110,000	One Year
Z. Hugh Fan	University of Florida	Two-Dimensional Electrophoresis Device for Biomarker Detection	\$ 141,184	One Year
Alvaro Monteiro	H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center & Research Institute	BRCA1 Status as a Marker of Clinical Outcomes in Lung Cancer	\$ 200,000	One Year

### New Investigator Research Grants

Grantee	Institution	Title	Award Amount	Award Term
Aaron Aponick	University of Florida	Studies on Spirastrellolide A to Probe the Significance of PP2A in Tumorigenesis	\$ 374,451	Three Years
David Evans	H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center & Research Institute	Genetic Moderation of Nicotine-Induced Cognitive Enhancement	\$ 365,908	Three Years
El-Sayed Ibrahim	University of Florida	Evaluation of the Relationship between Right Ventricular Myocardial Mechanics and Pulmonary Artery Vessel and Flow Dynamics in Pulmonary Artery Hypertension by MRI	\$ 367,111	Three Years
Jason Jent	University of Miami	The Effectiveness of the Reducing Environmental Tobacco Exposure Program within a Healthy Steps for Young Children Pediatric Model: A Randomized-Controlled Trial	\$ 353,215	Three Years
Masayuki Kanai	H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center & Research Institute	Molecular Dissection of the RockII-dependent Regulation of Centrosome Duplication	\$ 374,998	Three Years
Jason Lang	Nemours Children's Clinic	Environmental Genetics (En-Gen): Effect of Environmental Tobacco Smoke and Genetic Variation on Leukotriene Production in Asthmatic Children	\$ 374,901	Three Years
Alfred K. Mbah	University of South Florida	Effect of Passive Smoking on Risk for Antenatal and Post-partum Depression	\$ 374,733	Three Years
Brian Miller	Florida State University	Mechanism of Kinetic Cooperativity in Monomeric Human Glucokinase	\$ 375,000	Three Years

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Nasreen Najmunnisa	University of Florida	Eph-A2 Signaling in Tobacco Smoke Induced Bronchial Airway Epithelial Injury	\$ 375,000	Three Years
Kerri OMalley	University of Florida	IL-1 Beta and KLF2 Cross-Talk in Shear-mediated Intimal Hyperplasia	\$ 375,000	Three Years
Priyamvada Rai	University of Miami	Exploring a Role for Oxidative Stress and Oxidative DNA Damage in Limiting the Progression of Non-small Cell Lung Carcinomas	\$ 375,000	Three Years
Claudia Rodrigues	University of Miami	Mechanisms of Intercellular Communication During Angiogenesis	\$ 375,000	Three Years
Dorian Rose	University of Florida	Use of Repetitive Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation as an Adjuvant to Enhance Post-Stroke Recovery	\$ 375,000	Three Years
Owen Ross	Mayo Clinic	Investigation of the Familial CADASIL Gene NOTCH3 in Ischemic Stroke	\$ 375,000	Three Years
Matthew Schabath	H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center & Research Institute	Molecular Epidemiology of Lung Cancer Survival: A Pathway Approach	\$ 375,000	Three Years
Ramiro Verdun	University of Miami	DNA Damage Proteins and Telomerase Activity in Tumor Cells	\$ 375,000	Three Years
Xiaohong Zhang	University of South Florida	Mechanisms by which HDAC6 Confers Chemoresistance in Lung Cancer	\$ 375,000	Three Years
Ming-Sheng Zhou	University of Miami	Mechanisms Underlying Nicotine's Proatherogenic Effects in Macrophages	\$ 375,000	Three Years

### **Technology Transfer/Commercialization Partnership Grants**

Grantee	Institution	Title	Award Amount	Award Term
Eckhard Podack	University of Miami	Novel Treatment Modality for Asthma	\$100,000	One Year

### **Team Science Project Grants**

Grantee	Institution	Title	Award Amount	Award Term
Dmitry Gabilovich	H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center & Research Institute	Myeloid Derived Suppressor Cells in Tobacco Related Cancers	\$ 1,000,000	Two Years
Keith Pennypacker	University of South Florida	Synthesis and Screening of Sigma Ligands for Stroke Treatment at Delayed Time Points	\$ 764,174	Two Years

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W. Jackson Pledger	H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center & Research Institute	Regulation of Lung Cancer Growth by Postranslational Protein Modifications	\$ 1,000,000	Two Years
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### 2009-2010 Bankhead-Coley Program Grantees

#### Bridge Grants

Grantee	Institution	Title	Award Amount	Award Term
Philip Arlen	M. D. Anderson Cancer Center Orlando	The Role of Extracellular Cytokeratin 8 in Prostate Cancer	\$ 75,667	One Year
Kevin Brown	University of Florida	Defining Molecular Alterations in Chromatin Structure during Gene Silencing in Breast Cancer	\$ 37,500	One Year
Esteban Celis	H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center & Research Institute	Treatment of Melanoma with Optimized Peptide Vaccines	\$ 200,000	One Year
Srikumar Chellappan	H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center & Research Institute	Role of Id1 in NSCLC Progression and Metastasis	\$ 200,000	One Year
Jin Cheng	H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center & Research Institute	MicroRNAs Regulated by TGFbeta- dependent and -independent Pathways in Breast Cancer- initiating Cell and Metastasis	\$ 137,500	One Year
Alan Fields	Mayo Clinic	Protein Kinase C Signaling Mechanisms in Cancer	\$ 200,000	One Year
Steve Goodison	University of Florida	Cell Surface Factors in Cancer Progression	\$ 199,733	One Year
Stephen Grobmyer	University of Florida	Image Guided Hyperthermic Anti- Angiogenic Therapy for Breast Cancer	\$ 137,500	One Year
Qun Huo	University of Central Florida	Development of a Homogeneous One-Step Immunoassay for Cancer Marker Detection	\$ 175,000	One Year
Brian Law	University of Florida	Cdk Activation Specifies Breast Tumor Subtype and Initiates Genetic Instability	\$ 137,500	One Year
Daiqing Liao	University of Florida	Mechanism of Antagonizing Mdm2 and Mdm4 by Adenovirus Type 12 E1B 55-kDa Protein	\$ 137,500	One Year
Hendrik Luesch	University of Florida	Chemistry and Biology of Largazoles	\$ 200,000	One Year

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Jun-Li Luo	The Scripps Research Institute	The Kinase-independent Function of IKK $\alpha$ Protein in Breast Cancer	\$ 137,500	One Year
David Muir	University of Florida	Photodynamic Therapy Development using NF1 Tumor Xenografts	\$ 199,993	One Year
Jatinder Palta	University of Florida	The RCET System: An Information Technology Infrastructure for Advanced Radiotherapy	\$ 197,363	One Year
Deidre Pereira	University of Florida	Cognitive Behavioral Effects on Sleep, Pain, and Cytokines in Gynecologic Cancer	\$ 200,000	One Year
Evette Radisky	Mayo Clinic	Development of Highly Selective MMP-9 Inhibitors for Breast Cancer Therapy	\$ 130,000	One Year
Edward Seto	H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center & Research Institute	Regulation of Non-histone Protein Functions by Histone Deacetylases	\$ 200,000	One Year
Joyce Slingerland	University of Miami	Mechanisms Whereby Src Activates Estrogen Stimulated ER Proteolysis and ER Target	\$ 200,000	One Year
Eduardo Sotomayor	H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center & Research Institute	Targeting Negative Regulatory Pathways for Immunotherapy of B-cell Lymphomas	\$ 200,000	One Year
Hengli Tang	Florida State University	Cyclosporine, Cyclophilins and HCV Replication	\$ 198,000	One Year
Javier F. Torres-Roca	H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center & Research Institute	Development of an Assay to Predict Radiosensitivity in Prostate Cancer	\$ 173,602	One Year

### **New Investigator Research Grants**

<b>Grantee</b>	<b>Institution</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Award Amount</b>	<b>Award Term</b>
Cheryl Baker	M. D. Anderson Cancer Center Orlando	Nanoceria: A Novel Nanoparticle Adjuvant Therapy to Increase the Efficacy of Radiotherapy for Lung Cancer Patients	\$ 373,325	Three Years
Susan Blaydes Ingersoll	Florida Hospital Cancer Institute	Cellular Therapy in Combination with Cytokines as Treatment of Ovarian Cancer	\$ 374,049	Three Years
Roniel Cabrera	University of Florida	Regulatory Immunologic Mechanisms in Hepatocellular Carcinoma	\$ 375,000	Three Years
Jun Cai	University of Florida	Role of Alpha-B-crystallin (CRYAB) and the Unfolded Protein Response in Tumor Vascularization	\$ 359,178	Three Years
Zhibin Chen	University of Miami	Mechanisms of Tumor-induced Local Immunosuppression	\$ 375,000	Three Years

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Quentin Felty	Florida International University	Metastases and Promotion of Aggressive Angiogenic Phenotype in Breast Cancer	\$ 375,000	Three Years
John Goldberg	University of Miami	Dendritic Cell Vaccine For Malignant Glioma And Glioblastoma Multiforme in Adult and Pediatric Subjects	\$ 375,000	Three Years
Esther Guzman	Florida Atlantic University	Discovery of Novel Anti-inflammatory Compounds for Use as Chemopreventatives of Pancreatic Cancer	\$ 374,999	Three Years
Andrew Judge	University of Florida	Role of NF kappa B and Foxo in the Regulation of Muscle Atrophy Genes and Muscle Atrophy during Experimental Cancer Cachexia	\$ 375,000	Three Years
Santhi Konduri	M. D. Anderson Cancer Center Orlando	Novel insights in Tamoxifen Regulation of MGMT Expression in Human Breast Cancers and its Therapeutic Relevance	\$ 374,563	Three Years
Zhao-Jun Liu	University of Miami	The NOTCH Signaling In Melanoma	\$ 375,000	Three Years
Jianrong Lu	University of Florida	Snail-mediated Epigenetic Regulations in Cancer Metastasis	\$ 375,000	Three Years
Erin Siegel	H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center & Research Institute	Insulin-like Growth Factor Biomarkers and Colorectal Cancer	\$ 375,000	Three Years
Keiran Smalley	H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center & Research Institute	Defining the signaling network of NRAS mutated melanomas.	\$ 375,000	Three Years
Brian Sorg	University of Florida	Light-triggered Carrier Drug Release for Treatment of Disseminated Cancer	\$ 375,000	Three Years

### **Specialized Program of Research Excellence Planning Grants**

<b>Grantee</b>	<b>Institution</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Award Amount</b>	<b>Award Term</b>
W. Jarrard Goodwin	University of Miami	Racial Disparities and Potential New Therapeutic Strategies in Head and Neck Squamous Cell Carcinoma	\$ 1,000,000	Three Years
Joyce Slingerland	University of Miami	Novel Experimental Therapeutic Approaches to Breast Cancer Therapy	\$ 1,000,000	Two Years