



Fight for Sight is pleased to announce the winners of its 2012 Summer Student Fellowships, Grants-in-Aid and Post-Doctoral Fellowships. Information follows in each category about the grantee, their project and the institution they are attending.

We recognize the generosity of Fight for Sight's 2012 funding partners including the American Macular Degeneration Foundation, Aniridia Foundation, Earl and Shirley Herbst Eye Research Fund, Lillian Redlich, New York Eye Bank for Sight Restoration, Sol Cohn Foundation, Streilein Foundation for Ocular Immunology, Women'sEyeHealth.org and the Worgul Lens Fellowship.

SUMMER STUDENT FELLOWSHIPS		
RECIPIENT	PROJECT	INSTITUTION
Lauren Beene	The Eye in Marfan Syndrome: An Investigation into the Biomechanical Properties and Diagnostic Utility of the Ocular Coats	Cleveland Clinic
Michael Gale	Evaluation of the Potential of 5HT7 Antagonist to Protect a Model of Light Induced Retinopathy	Oregon Health & Science University
Piotr Kopinski	Adeno-associated virus-mediated targeting of ND4 subunit coding gene to mitochondrial DNA restores red-ox/ATP balance in Leber's Hereditary Optic Neuropathy patient cells	University of Pennsylvania
Jenna Erickson	Treatment of blindness in the mouse model of Usher syndrome using antisense oligonucleotides	Chicago Medical School at Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine & Science
Suravi Raychaudhuri	Muscarinic Acetylcholine receptors in the Retinal Pigment Epithelium Mediate Axial Eye Growth	Regents of the University of California, Berkeley
Oliver Dutczak	Chronic oral 9-cis-retinyl treatment of diabetes-evoked visual cycle lesions in 2mo diabetic dark adapted C57Bl/6 mice.	Wayne State University School of Medicine
Hsuan Lu	Mesopic Vision Function Test as a Novel Biomarker in Age-Related Macular Degeneration	University of Illinois at Chicago
Amit Patel	Investigation of the role of the TLR3 innate immunity pathway in regulating cellular survival pathways in the RPE	Bascom Palmer Eye Institute
Gustavo Munguba	Rhythmic Stimulation as a Mechanism for Retinal Ganglion Cell Neuroprotection Against High Intraocular Pressure	Bascom Palmer Eye Institute
Sarah Jordan	Comparison of three therapeutic approaches for infants with retinopathy of prematurity including laser photocoagulation, bevacizumab as primary therapy, and bevacizumab as rescue therapy	Cleveland Clinic
Cindy Yeung	The Cataract-Associated R76S Mutant of Human Crystallin: How Does it Lead to Lens Opacity?	University at Albany, SUNY
Eric Chan	Diagnostic Staging of Limbal Stem Cell Deficiency in Patients Using In Vivo Confocal Microscopy and Conjunctival Epithelial Marker Cytokeratin 13	Jules Stein Eye Institute
Daniela Reyes-Capo	The Role of Granulocyte-Macrophage Colony Stimulating Factor in Immune-Mediated High Risk Corneal Allograft Rejection	Bascom Palmer Eye Institute
Keerthana Bolisetty	Correlation of change in ocular pulse amplitude with change in intracranial pressure to prevent vision loss in idiopathic intracranial hypertension patients	OSU Eye and Ear Institute
Quianta Moore	Effect of gender on the response to a low humidity environment in patients with dry eye	Baylor College of Medicine
Andrew Seffensmeier	Understanding the genetic basis of Aniridia, a birth defect in the eye.	University of Dayton

Jane Gilmore	Microperimetry and Dark Adaptation in Patients with Macular Degeneration and Observation of the Degeneration Pattern in Patient Subpopulations	Retina Foundation of the Southwest
Alexander Cherry	The Role of Notch Signaling in Experimental Proliferative Vitreoretinopathy	Ohio State University Medical Center
Nisha Shah	Local Melphalan Therapy in Transgenic Murine Retinoblastoma	University of Miami Miller School of Medicine
Lauren D'Surney	Neuroprotective treatment for blast-induced vision loss	University of Tennessee Health Science Center
Dianne Bach	Tear-based Diagnostics for Sjögren's Syndrome	Doheny Eye Institute USC
Ryan Alpino	Biochemical mechanism behind inherited childhood blindness	West Virginia University
Rebecca Stern	Lentiviral Vectors for Glaucoma Gene Therapy	University of Wisconsin-Madison
Sarwar Zahid	Quantification of Changes in Macular Autofluorescence in Dry Age-Related Macular Degeneration and Retinal Dystrophies	University of Michigan - Kellogg Eye Center
Diana Choi	The nature of word representations in the human visual system: use of a novel adaptation technique	University of British Columbia

POST DOCTORAL AWARDS

RECIPIENT	PROJECT	INSTITUTION
Stephanie Burroughs	Novel mechanism underlying altered calcium signaling in glaucoma – a potential target for new therapy development using N-acylethanolamines (NAEs) as neuroprotectants.	University of Missouri, Kansas City
Ana de Lucas Cerrillo	Safety and efficacy of a modified form of erythropoietin for the treatment of inherited retinal degenerative diseases	UTHSC
Desire Takawira	Role of ExoS ADP-r Activity in Corneal Infection	UC Berkeley
Karen Alvarez-Delfin	Investigation of the mechanisms of cross-talk between Wnt and STAT3 pro-survival pathways in the RPE	University of Miami, Bascom Palmer
Florencia Marcucci	Genes that regulate retinal ganglion cell identity	Columbia University
Han Yen Tan	Mechanisms of retinal ciliopathies probed by dual color super-resolution single particle tracking of ciliary proteins in live photoreceptors	SUNY Upstate Medical University

GRANTS-IN-AID

RECIPIENT	PROJECT	INSTITUTION
Theodora Papageorgiou	Rehabilitating Visual Motion Perception after Stroke of the Visual Cortex using Real-time Functional MRI.	
Jason Meyer	Direct conversion of somatic cells to retinal photoreceptors	
Fatema Ghasia	Understanding the Mechanisms of Pattern Strabismus	
Salil Lachke	Function of small Maf transcriptional regulators in lens development and cataract	
Patrick Scott	Anatomical Studies of Photoreceptor Degeneration in a Mini-Swine Model of Retinitis Pigmentosa	
Anna Demetriades	Muller Glia Cell-Mediated Neuroprotection for the Treatment of Glaucoma.	