



**BRAIN ANEURYSM  
FOUNDATION**

Raising Awareness. Ending Fear.™

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Brain Aneurysm Foundation Awards a Record \$445,000 in Research Grants  
*Recipients Will Be Announced at Annual Symposium in September***

(Hanover, MA) — The Massachusetts-based Brain Aneurysm Foundation has awarded \$445,000 in research grants to 14 recipients whose work is impacting a disease that affects one in 50 people in the United States, often leading to death or lifelong disability. Since its inception, the foundation has distributed more than \$2.1 million in research grants with funds raised exclusively from private donations.

The grant awards will be presented on Thursday, September 28 at the Washington Duke Inn & Golf Club in Durham, North Carolina. Following a daytime program, the evening will include a cocktail reception and poster session of foundation-funded research, followed by a dinner program.

This year's guest speaker will be Brain Aneurysm Foundation Medical Advisory Board member L. Fernando Gonzalez, MD, Co-Director of Cerebrovascular and Endovascular Neurosurgery and Associate Professor of Neurosurgery at Duke University. Tickets, at \$60 per person, can be reserved through the foundation's website at [bafound.org](http://bafound.org).

All current grant recipients are expected to attend the conference, in addition to the previous year's recipients, who will provide updates of their research. Others in attendance will include foundation Board and Medical Advisory Board members, survivors and caregivers, and family members and friends who supported a named Brain Aneurysm Foundation Chair of Research in honor or memory of a loved one. It is especially meaningful for those who named a research chair to have an opportunity to meet the researchers whose work they are supporting.

Established with a minimum gift of \$10,000, a Chair of Research provides funding for a researcher for one year. In 2017, seven new Chairs of Research were established. "These gifts are essential to our mission, as only through research can we improve outcomes for the thousands of people with brain aneurysms," said Christine Buckley,

Executive Director of the Brain Aneurysm Foundation, noting that the foundation is the largest private funder of brain aneurysm research in the United States.

**2017 Grant Award Recipients** (names and grant totals in bold)

**CYNTHIA LYNN SHERWIN CHAIR OF RESEARCH: \$25,000**

**\$25,000 Awarded to: STEFFEN-SEBASTIAN BOLZ, MD, PhD**

Governing Council of the University of Toronto

*Surge Protection: Blocking Catecholamine Signaling in Subarachnoid Hemorrhage Prevents Secondary Hypertension and Reduces Brain Injury*

**DEBBIE FEIGER CHAIR OF RESEARCH: \$10,000**

**ROSTINI "TINI" GOMEZ CHAIR OF RESEARCH: \$10,000**

**\$20,000 Awarded to: AICHI CHIEN, PhD**

University of California, Los Angeles

*Individualized Aneurysm Growth Prediction and Follow-Up Management*

**TIMOTHY P. SUSCO CHAIR OF RESEARCH: \$25,000**

**ANDREW DAVID HEITMAN FOUNDATION CHAIR OF RESEARCH: \$10,000**

**\$35,000 Awarded to: DAVID Y. CHUNG, MD, PhD**

Massachusetts General Hospital

*Impact of Spreading Depolarizations and Subarachnoid Hemorrhage on Brain Connectivity*

**ANDREW DAVID HEITMAN FOUNDATION CHAIR OF RESEARCH: \$10,000**

**ELLIE HELTON CHAIR OF RESEARCH: \$5,000**

**1in50 CHAIR OF RESEARCH: \$5,000**

**\$20,000 Awarded to: ADAM A. DMYTRIW, MD, MSc**

University of Toronto

*International Comparison of Endovascular Flow Diverters for the Treatment of Anterior Circulation Aneurysms*

**KRISTEN'S LEGACY OF LOVE FOR KRISTEN SHAFER ENGLERT CHAIR OF RESEARCH: \$20,000**

**BIDMC BRAIN ANEURYSM INSTITUTE CHAIR OF RESEARCH: \$10,000**

**CHRISTOPHER C. GETCH, MD, CHAIR OF RESEARCH (Sponsored by the CV Section): \$5,000**

**\$35,000 Awarded to: SYLVAIN DORÉ, PhD**

University of Florida

*Is CO-Releasing Molecule a Potent Tool for Attenuating Vasospasm and Providing Neuroprotection after Subarachnoid Hemorrhage?*

**SHIRLEY DUDEK DEMMER CHAIR OF RESEARCH: \$25,000**

**ANDREW DAVID HEITMAN FOUNDATION CHAIR OF RESEARCH: \$20,000**

**\$45,000 Awarded to: WILLIAM T. GIBSON, MD, PhD**

University of British Columbia

*Functional Approach to Missense Mutations in THSD1, A New Aneurysm Gene*

**STRODE FAMILY CHAIR OF RESEARCH: \$15,000**

**NEBRASKA'S HOPE FOR A BETTER TOMORROW CHAIR OF RESEARCH: \$15,000**

**\$30,000 Awarded to: MICHELLE A. T. HILDEBRANDT, PhD**

University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center

*Genetic Predictors of Unruptured Intracranial Aneurysm Growth Behavior and Quantitative Imaging Biomarkers*

**NORTHWELL HEALTH—NORTH SHORE UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL BRAIN**

**ANERUSYM CENTER CHAIR OF RESEARCH: \$30,000**

**ANDREW DAVID HEITMAN FOUNDATION CHAIR OF RESEARCH: \$10,000**

**\$40,000 Awarded to: BRIAN L. HOH, MD**

University of Florida

*Studying IL-6 and IL-17 in the Cerebral Aneurysm Development of VCD mice*

**TEAMCINDY ESCAPE FROM ALCATRAZ CHAIR OF RESEARCH: \$40,000**

**\$40,000 Awarded to: KOJI HOSAKA, PhD**

University of Florida

*Mechanism of Aneurysm Progression and Healing: Telomere and Telomerase Activity in Cerebral Aneurysm*

**CAMI CLARK CHAIR OF RESEARCH: \$30,000**

**\$30,000 Awarded to: DAISUKE KUDO, MD, PhD**

University of California, San Francisco

*Contribution of Microbiota to the Pathophysiology of Intracranial Aneurysm*

**TERRY A. KERSTING CHAIR OF RESEARCH: \$15,000**

**1in50 CHAIR OF RESEARCH: \$5,000**

**\$20,000 Awarded to: JOHN A. OATES, MD**

Vanderbilt University Medical Center

*Inhibition of Lipid Peroxidation and Cerebral Vasospasm by an Acetaminophen-Based Regimen in Patients with Subarachnoid Hemorrhage*

**FIGHT LIKE FRANK CHAIR OF RESEARCH: \$15,000**

**TEAMCINDY ESCAPE FROM ALCATRAZ CHAIR OF RESEARCH: \$5,000**

**\$20,000 Awarded to: WILLIAM "CALEB" RUTLEDGE, MD**

University of California, San Francisco

*Role of ADAM17 and Epidermal Growth Factor Receptor Pathway Signaling in Aneurysm Rupture*

**ELLIE HELTON CHAIR OF RESEARCH: \$40,000**

***\$40,000 Awarded to: DEANNA SASAKI-ADAMS, MD***

University of North Carolina School of Medicine

*Novel Magnetic Resonance Imaging Sequence to Characterize Inflammatory Changes in Aneurysms in a Proven Rabbit Model and Assess Therapeutic Effect of Aspirin*

**CAROL W. HARVEY CHAIR OF RESEARCH: \$25,000**

**DAWN BREJCHA CHAIR OF RESEARCH: \$10,000**

**ROBERT SUTHERLAND CHAIR OF RESEARCH: \$10,000**

***\$45,000 Awarded to: VINCENT M. TUTINO, PhD***

State University of New York at Buffalo

*Feasibility of Detecting Brain Aneurysm Biomarkers in Whole Blood on a Diagnostic Platform*

**ABOUT THE BRAIN ANEURYSM FOUNDATION**

Founded in Boston and now based in Hanover, Massachusetts, the Brain Aneurysm Foundation is the globally recognized leader in brain aneurysm awareness, education, support, advocacy, and research funding.

The foundation's mission is to provide information about and raise awareness of the symptoms and risk factors of brain aneurysms to prevent ruptures and subsequent death and disability; work with medical communities to provide support networks for patients and families; and advance research to improve patients' outcomes and save lives.

Established in 1994, the foundation is led by Executive Director Christine Buckley and has a Medical Advisory Board that comprises more than 30 of the nation's foremost aneurysm experts — neurologists, neurosurgeons, interventional neuroradiologists, and other brain aneurysm specialists — from the country's leading hospitals and universities.

**For more information about the Brain Aneurysm Foundation, visit [bafound.org](http://bafound.org).**