



CALIFORNIA

**Breast
Cancer
Research**
PROGRAM

Compendium of Awards

**Cycle 20
2014**

Introduction

The mission of the CBCRP is to prevent and eliminate breast cancer by leading innovation in research, communication, and collaboration in the California scientific and lay communities.

The California Breast Cancer Research Program (CBCRP) is pleased to announce the **funding of 17 new research projects** that will advance our knowledge about the community impact, biology, detection, and treatment of breast cancer. With these new awards we are **investing \$4,597,137 for research projects being performed at 16 institutions and community organizations across the state.**

The CBCRP supports breast cancer research in California from funds obtained through:

- A portion of a **2¢ per pack State cigarette tax**
- Contributions from individuals using the **State's income tax check-off** option
- **Donations** from concerned community members dedicated to defeating breast cancer

The CBCRP is administered by the University of California, Office of the President, in Oakland. Our overall objectives, strategies, and priorities are developed with the assistance of a volunteer California Breast Cancer Research Council (BCRC), which sets program priorities and recommends the grants to be funded. The BCRC consists of 16 members: five are representatives of breast cancer survivor/advocacy groups; five are scientists/clinicians; two are members from nonprofit health organizations, one is a practicing breast cancer medical specialist, two are members from private industry, and one is an *ex officio* member from the California Department of Health Services breast cancer early detection program, "Every Woman Counts."

CBCRP research funding is organized through a number of sub-program units including:

- **Community initiatives** supports research grants that incorporate both traditional researcher and community group co-investigators to study a problem specific to a community, but with wider dissemination potential.
- **Core funding** focuses on investigator-initiated traditional grants to support smaller, innovative projects, larger translational grants, and conferences.

The full abstracts of these newly funded grants, as well as those from previous CBCRP funding cycles, can be found on our website: www.CABreastCancer.org.

Overview of CBCRP Award Types

CBCRP funded new research projects using a variety of award types in 2014:

- **Community Research Collaboration (CRC)** awards bring community organizations—such as breast cancer advocates, community clinics, or organizations serving under-represented women—together with experienced scientists to investigate breast cancer problems that are important to that community, using culturally-appropriate research methods. CRC Pilot (18-month) and CRC Full Research awards (three years) are available. In 2014, we also funded one supplement to an on-going CRC grant and a CRC conference award to support the development of CRC research teams.
- **Innovative Developmental and Exploratory Awards (IDEAs)** are 12- to 18-month grants for targeted high-risk/high-reward projects. The CBCRP incorporates the “critical path” concept, which requires applicants to place their project on a research continuum leading to practical applications. IDEAs are offered to both new and established investigators.
- **Translational Research** awards support projects that overcome barriers and put prior research knowledge to practical use in the patient or community setting.
- **Conference Awards** support a conference, symposium, retreat, or other meeting to link breast cancer researchers, non-breast cancer investigators, and community members for the purpose of stimulating new ideas and collaborations.

LOI and Application Submissions and Review

IDEA and Translational Research Awards applications must pass through a letter of intent (LOI) screening process conducted by our Council to select projects that best meet our award type and programmatic criteria. We view this as a benefit to both the applicants and Program in terms of reducing the effort to prepare full applications and the CBCRP’s corresponding peer review costs.

Table 1. LOI submission and approval results

Award Type	LOIs submitted	LOIs approved	Percent approved
IDEA	55	48	87%
Translational Research Award	15	8	53%

After the LOI process the full application data is shown in the table below.

Table 2. 2014 full application submissions by award type and priority issue

Award Type ↓	CBCRP Priority Issue				Award Type Totals
	Etiology & Prevention	Community Impact	Detection, Prognosis & Treatment	Biology of the Breast Cell	
Innovative, Developmental & Exploratory (IDEA)	6	1	21	11	39
Translational	0	1	4	0	5
Community Research Collaboration (CRC) Pilot and Full	1	8	2	0	11
Community Research Collaboration Supplement	0	1	0	0	1
Community Research Collaboration Conference	0	1	0	0	1
CBCRP Conference	0	0	1	0	1
Priority Totals	7	12	28	11	58

Funding Highlights

Table 3. 2014 grant distribution by award type

Award Type	Number of Applications	Grants Funded (Success Rate)	Amount Awarded	Percentage of Total Funding
IDEA	39	9 (23%)	\$2,219,049	48.3%
Translational	5	1 (20%)	\$968,782	21.1%
Community Research Collaboration (CRC)	11	3 (27%)	\$1,777,287	25.5%
Community Research Collaboration Supplement	1	1 (100%)	\$76,320	1.7%
Community Research Collaboration Conference	1	1 (100%)	\$150,418	3.3%
CBCRP Conference	1	1 (100%)	\$8,142	0.2%
Total	58	16 (28%)	\$4,597,137	100%

Table 4. 2014 grant distribution by priority issue

Award Type	Number of Applications	Grants Funded (Success Rate)	Amount Awarded	Percentage of Total Funding
Etiology & Prevention	7	2 (29%)	\$435,508	10%
Community Impact	12	5 (42%)	\$2,157,574	47%
Detection, Prognosis & Treatment	28	7 (25%)	\$1,303,659	28%
Biology of the Breast Cell	11	3 (33%)	\$702,356	15%
Total	58	17 (24%)	\$4,597,137	100%

Grants Funded in Cycle 20 2013-2014

Community Initiatives Grants

API-Friendly Resources for Breast Cancer Clinical Trials

Award type: Community Research Collaboration Award - Pilot
Priority Issue: Detection/Prognosis/Treatment

Vanessa Malcarne
San Diego State University Research Foundation
\$52,325

Georgia Sadler
UCSD
\$48,750

Fe Seligman
Operation Samahan, Inc.
\$100,000

Total: \$214,332



Engaging Underserved Women in Health Research

Award type: Community Research Collaboration Award - Full
Priority Issue: Community Impact of Breast Cancer

Galen Joseph
UCSF
\$381,249

Allyssa Nickell
Shanti Project, Inc.
\$375,000

Total: \$756,249



Exploring Rural Disparities in Breast Cancer Mortality

Award type: Community Research Collaboration Award - Pilot
Priority Issue: Community Impact of Breast Cancer

Brenda Elvine-Kreis
Humboldt Community Breast Health Project
\$62,044

Terry Uyeki
Humboldt State University
\$155,059

Total: \$217,102

HERMOSA: Health & Environmental Research on Make-up of Salinas Adolescent

Award type: Community Research Collaboration Award - Supplement

Priority Issue: Community Impact of Breast Cancer

Kim Harley

UCB

\$36,000

Kimberly Parra

Clinica de Salud del Valle de Salinas

\$40,320

Total: \$76,320

Quick Start: Training in CBPR in Breast Cancer, Environment, and Disparities

Award type: Community Research Collaboration Award - Conference

Priority Issue: Community Impact of Breast Cancer

Heather Sarantis

Commonweal

\$150,418

Core Funding Grants

A Novel TNBC Therapeutic Opportunity: Cystine Addiction

Award type: IDEA Award

Priority Issue: Detection/Prognosis/Treatment

Luika Timmerman

UCSF

\$187,500

Breast Cancer and the Human Oral Microbiome

Award type: IDEA Award

Priority Issue: Etiology and Prevention

Michael Campbell

UCSF

\$187,264



CT guided DOT for Breast cancer imaging

Award type: IDEA Award

Priority Issue: Detection/Prognosis/Treatment

Changqing Li

UCM

\$193,750



Drug to Block Double-Strand Break Repair in Breast Cancer

Award type: IDEA Award

Priority Issue: Detection/Prognosis/Treatment

Gilbert Chu

Stanford University

\$160,500



Gut Microbiota in Association with Chemotherapy Treatment

Award type: IDEA Award

Priority Issue: Detection/Prognosis/Treatment

Anna Wu
USC
\$246,937



Intervening on Reproductive Health in Young Survivors

Award type: Translational Research Award

Priority Issue: Community Impact of Breast Cancer

Irene Su
UCSD
\$968,782



Mechanical Stressors and Age as Regulators of Telomerase

Award type: IDEA Award

Priority Issue: Biology of the Breast

Mark LaBarge
Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory
\$209,606



Persistent Organic Pollutants and Mammographic Density

Award type: IDEA Award

Priority Issue: Etiology and Prevention

Eunjung Lee
USC
\$248,244

Systemic Metabolic Reprogramming by Breast Cancer-Secreted microRNAs

Award type: IDEA Award

Priority Issue: Biology of the Breast

Shizhen Emily Wang
Beckman Research Institute of the City of Hope
\$252,000

Sulindac-Derived Compounds for Breast Cancer Therapy

Award type: IDEA Award

Priority Issue: Detection/Prognosis/Treatment

Xiao-Kun Zhang
Sanford-Burnham Medical Research Institute
\$292,498



Targeting Breast Cancer Metastasis to Bone

Award type: IDEA Award

Priority Issue: Biology of the Breast

Christopher Contag
Stanford University
\$240,750

UCSF Breast Oncology Program Scientific Retreat

Award type: CBCRP Conference

Priority Issue: Detection/Prognosis/Treatment

Laura van't Veer

UCSF

\$8,142



Denotes awards that have been supported in part through voluntary contributions



Denotes awards supported in part by the Katherine A. Buzbee Trust



Denotes awards supported in part by the Anita Tarr Turk Fund for Breast Cancer Research of the Community Foundation for Monterey County



Denotes Faith Fancher Research Award recipient. [Faith Fancher](#) was a long-time television news anchor and personality with KTVU (Oakland) who waged a very public battle against breast cancer. She also was the founding member of the CBCRP Executive Team, which formed in 2001 to help raise the visibility and fundraising profile of our program. Faith passed away in October 2003 after a six-year struggle with breast cancer. In Faith's honor, and to commemorate all that she did for breast cancer education and research, we have created this annual award. The selected grant reflects the values that Faith held most closely and extends the work that Faith did for all women facing breast cancer.

2014 CBCRP Funding by Institution

The following 16 California research institutions and community organizations were awarded new CBCRP funding in the 2013-2014 grant cycle. Community collaborative (CRC) grants may be split between institutions.

Institution (city)	# Investigators	Amount
Beckman Research Institute of the City of Hope	1	\$252,000
Clinical de Salud del Valle de Salinas	1	\$40,320
Commonweal	1	\$150,418
Humboldt Community Breast Health Project	1	\$62,044
Humboldt State University	1	\$155,058
Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory	1	\$209,606
Operation Samahan, Inc.	1	\$100,000
San Diego State University Research Foundation	1	\$52,325
Sanford-Burnham Medical Research Institute	1	\$292,498
Shanti Project, Inc.	1	\$375,000
Stanford University	2	\$401,250
University of California, Berkeley	1	\$36,000
University of California, San Diego	2	\$1,018,032
University of California, San Francisco	4	\$764,155
University of California, Merced	1	\$193,750
University of Southern California	2	\$495,181

2014 CBCRP application evaluation process & review committee rosters

The CBCRP thanks the participants in our 2014 review committees for their service and dedication to our Program!

In the first phase of the funding process, grant applications were peer reviewed and scored for scientific merit by review committees using a model that follows established practice at the National Institutes of Health (NIH). Each committee is composed of scientists and advocates from outside California. The Committee Chair leads the review process and is a senior researcher. Scientific Reviewers have broad expertise in topics associated with individual applications. Breast cancer Advocate Reviewers are women active in breast cancer advocacy organizations, and many of them are also living with the disease. Advocates bring their personal knowledge and commitment to the review process. Each committee also includes a California Advocate Observer, who does not review or vote, but represents California's advocacy community. The observer gains insight into our process and provides feedback to the Program. When additional expertise is needed, an Ad Hoc Member is brought in to the review a particular application not covered by the other committee scientist reviewers.

The CBCRP uses a scientific **merit scoring system** that rates individual components (e.g., approach, innovativeness, impact). This allows our expert reviewers and Council to better differentiate applications that might otherwise appear identical. Depending on the award type, we use four or five scientific merit components in the peer review process.

We **triage** some applications that score in the lower range of a committee's portfolio using the preliminary scores of the assigned reviewers. Applications in the upper range of a committee's portfolio all receive full committee discussion, as do any of the lower scoring applications nominated to full review by one reviewer.

Applications that were not triaged were rated by the CBCRP's Council for **programmatic responsiveness**. The following criteria were used:

- Responsiveness to the CBCRP's priority issues and award type (or initiative)
- Strength of individual scientific merit component scores (e.g., innovation for IDEA applications)
- Underfunded topic
- Quality of the lay abstract
- Inclusion of advocates in the funded research
- Addressing the needs of the underserved
- Critical path/translation (IDEA and Translational Research Award), or dissemination and translational potential (CRC)

This two-tiered evaluation and funding process ensures both scientific excellence and relevance of the research to the CBCRP's mission and goals.

Community Impact Review Committee

Chair:

Carolyn Gotay, Ph.D.

Prof. & Can. Cancer Soc. Chair in Cancer
Primary Prev.
School of Population and Public Health
University of British Columbia
Vancouver, BC Canada

Scientific Reviewers:

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Asst. Prof. of Oncology; Prog. Dir., Health
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Georgetown University Medical Center
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Beti Thompson, Ph.D.

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Assistant Professor of Social and Behavioral
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Fredika M. Robertson, Ph.D.

Executive Director, Clinical Research Sciences
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Center for Clinical and Translational Research
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Scientific Reviewers:

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Marta Nichols

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Program Specialist

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CORE FUNDING

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Lyn Dunagan