



WHY A REVOLUTION?

Traditional grants tend to fund incremental progress and isolate researchers

Traditional government grants have served as the backbone of academic research by providing investigators the freedom to pursue the questions and experiments they find most compelling. However, funds distributed in this manner tend to support relatively incremental advances and usually result in research being conducted in isolation or in small, limited collaborations. This traditional grant-making approach has been responsible for creating a vast amount of biomedical knowledge and will remain critical for discovery, but it has lagged in its ability to support the most innovative science, especially involving cross-disciplinary teams.

The Pittsburgh Revolution Fund for Patient-Driven Therapies will jump-start novel ideas where grant funding and corporate support would be premature. Due to the unique, collaborative environment in Pittsburgh that has fostered leaders in integrating technologies, we already have a varied group of experienced scientists representing diverse fields to make new cross-disciplinary connections.

This collaboration will help us to generate new knowledge and develop practical solutions to specific health problems. We will ensure that all campaign-supported, cross-disciplinary programs are milestone-driven, such that funds are released as goals are met – or as the investigator reworks his or her proposal to accommodate new discoveries that alter the original planned direction. If dead-ends are reached, funding for that work will be re-invested in another more promising aspect of the project or diverted to another project. Upon request, we will gladly put together a prospectus of research and development areas of sponsor interest.

Part of our funding process will also include a dedicated program manager who can provide investigative teams with the skills needed to keep their projects on track. We will encourage all team members to participate in presenting milestone achievements and proposals to advocate for continued funding of their programs.

Questions?

For more information on these and other Quantitative Systems Pharmacology programs currently in development at the University of Pittsburgh, please contact:

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To find out how to support The Revolution Fund and its efforts to enhance patient-driven therapies through QSP programs, please contact:

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