

Four UCSD researchers are among ninety from the U.S. and Canada to receive Sloan Foundation Fellowships

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FOUR UCSD RESEARCHERS AWARDED SLOAN FOUNDATION FELLOWSHIPS

Four researchers from the University of California, San Diego are among the ninety "outstanding young scientists and economists" throughout the United States and Canada to receive fellowships this year from the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation.

Two of the winners, Ethan Bier and Jerold J. M. Chun, are investigating different aspects of brain research; the other two, Daniel F. Harvey and Jay S. Siegel, are members of the chemistry faculty. All four are assistant professors.

Of the 53 colleges and universities represented among the winners, no other institution received more than four fellowships. Among the other UC campuses, UCSD had the most fellowship winners, followed by UC Berkeley and UC Santa Barbara with three each, and UCLA with two.

The Sloan awards, now 37 years old, are given to "highly qualified young scientists in the early stages of their careers on the basis of their exceptional promise to contribute to the advancement of knowledge."

Candidates are nominated by department chairmen and other senior scholars familiar with their talents.

The fellows each receive awards of \$30,000 for a two-year period to be used to advance their research in whatever way they think best.

Bier joined the biology faculty in July 1990 from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute at the University of California, San Francisco. His studies focus on neural development in *Drosophila melanogaster*, or fruit flies, with special emphasis on understanding biochemical processes that govern cellular growth and differentiation of the nervous system. Bier received his Ph.D. in cellular and developmental biology in 1985 from Harvard University.

Chun came to UCSD last summer as a member of the pharmacology faculty at the UCSD School of Medicine after completing his postdoctoral studies at the Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research and earning his Ph.D. and M.D. from Stanford University School of Medicine. A long-term objective of his studies is to understand how the mammalian central nervous system develops and functions at the molecular biology level.

Siegel, a member of the UCSD chemistry faculty since 1986, focuses his research on questions surrounding the structure of molecules, especially spatial relationships differences that affect chemical and physical properties. He earned his Ph.D. from Princeton University and did postdoctoral work at the Universite Louis Pasteur.

Harvey, who joined the chemistry faculty in 1987 from the University of California, Berkeley, is studying new methods and strategies for the synthesis and study of several tumor promoters and inhibitors. He received his Ph.D. from Yale University in 1985.

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