

Daniel Donoghue named as a 1983 Searle Scholar

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Daniel Donoghue, an assistant professor of chemistry at the University of California, San Diego, has been named as a 1983 Searle Scholar.

The award, given by the Searle Scholars Program of Chicago, carries with it a three-year grant for \$157,700 which Donoghue will use to carry on his research into the genetic causes of cancer.

According to the Chicago Community Trust, which administers the program, the awards are made to universities to "assist in establishing independent research programs for outstanding individuals who have recently received tenure-track appointments at the assistant professor level."

"I only recently came to UCSD and my research program here is just getting started," said Donoghue, "that's what's so thrilling about the award."

Donoghue received his Ph.D. in biology from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1979, in the laboratory of Prof. Phillip A. Sharp. Prior to joining UCSD last year, he had been working with Dr. Anthony Hunter in the Tumor Virology Laboratory at Salk Institute.

"I have been studying genes which cause cancer in laboratory animals," said Donoghue. "There are about two dozen different cancer-causing genes which have been isolated in experimental animals. My goal is to understand how one of these genes, the MOS gene, affects the biochemistry of the cell to make it transformed, i.e. malignant."

Donoghue said most of the funding will be used to purchase equipment for his laboratory to allow him and his colleagues to "carry out more different kinds of biological studies on oncogenes (cancer causing genes) and their gene products."

The Searle Scholars Program was established with funds from the estate of Mr. and Mrs. John Searle. He was the grandson of the founder of G. D. Searle & Co., a world-wide pharmaceutical company.

It was Mr. Searle's wish that certain funds be used to support research in medicine, chemistry and biological science.

Each year the program awards 12 grants of \$50,000 per year for three years, with continual funding after the first year dependent upon submission of acceptable progress reports to the Chicago Community Trust.

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