University of California, Santa Barbara

Call for Proposals

The 2023 Daryl and Marguerite Errett Discovery Award in Biomedical Research

Overview

Funded through an annual gift from the Errett Fisher Foundation, the *Daryl and Marguerite Errett Discovery Award in Biomedical Research* is intended to honor the lives of Daryl and Marguerite Errett, while providing seed funding to the most exceptional young postdocs or research professionals (non-tenured faculty) at UC Santa Barbara early in their careers to support their innovative research in the field of biomedicine.

The *Daryl and Marguerite Errett Discovery Award* will provide support to one outstanding postdoc or research professional annually to enable him/her to conduct cutting-edge research in biomedicine and to launch promising projects that nurture the careers of gifted young investigators who will have an impact on pioneering developments that advance human health.

The award is intended to supply seed funding to outstanding scientists and engineers who seek to conduct risk-taking research that might not yet qualify for traditional sources of funding from agencies like the National Institute for Health. The award is highly competitive, bestowing upon the recipient a significant measure of independence.

Application Process/Timeline

All laboratory heads (i.e., faculty) in Engineering and the Sciences are invited to nominate their most outstanding postdoctoral fellows or research professionals (non-tenured faculty), with a focus on researchers who are leading efforts in biomedical research.

A complete application package should include:

•A written proposal of the suggested research, limited to **no more than 3 pages (at least 10pt font, at least 0.5" margins)**. The proposal should include a paragraph to address the question: *How is this work innovative and/or independent, compared to the lab's current work?* The proposal should also include a statement about the broader potential impact of the work. The proposal should also include a brief planned budget for expending these gift funds. Salary can (but doesn't have to be) be one of the expenditures, and it can be partial. Benefits should be added if the salary is included. Travel, supplies, and other research-related expenses that help enable the work are also allowed. The total budget can be up to \$70,000. The proposal does not go through the Office of Research, and thus does not need to include overhead.

• A curriculum vita, as well as a brief statement (typically a paragraph is sufficient) of the candidate's career objectives.

•Two letters of recommendation; one from the laboratory head or faculty mentor, and one from another scientist, either at UC Santa Barbara or another institution, who is familiar with the candidate's work.

The deadline for submission of applications is June 12, 2023.

Once awarded, funds provided by the *Daryl and Marguerite Errett Discovery Award* could be used by the recipients for any costs associated with the proposed project. These may include salary (at the level set by the recipient's laboratory head and indicated within the proposed budgetary analysis within the proposal), research supplies, and access to vital equipment and instrumentation. The term of the award would be from August 1, 2023 to July 31, 2024 and funds should be expended within the end of the award year.

The *Daryl and Marguerite Errett Discovery Award* Committee, which will be composed of five distinguished faculty members from various fields in biomedical research in Engineering and the Sciences at UC Santa Barbara, will review the nominations and applications. The Committee will select the most outstanding postdoctoral fellows or research professionals based on the quality, creativity, and promise of his or her proposed project. The decision will be announced by July 3, 2024.

The recipient of the *Daryl and Marguerite Errett Discovery Award* would provide the Errett Fisher Foundation Board with a written stewardship report at the end of the first year reporting on the outcomes of the recipient's research. The report would be due by August 31, 2024. In addition, board members of the Errett Fisher Foundation as well as a UCSB development officer will have the opportunity to meet with the recipient at the beginning of the award and learn first-hand about his or her research project and goals.

Please submit applications no later than June 12, 2023 to: sls@ucsb.edu

Spencer LaVere Smith, Ph.D. Associate Professor, Electrical and Computer Engineering Chair, Dynamical Neuroscience Program Chair, Daryl and Marguerite Errett Discovery Award Committee sls@ucsb.edu