



sitc 2014

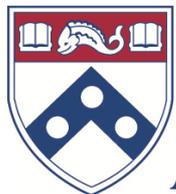
November 6-9, 2014 • National Harbor, MD
ANNUAL MEETING • WORKSHOP • PRIMER



November 9th, 2014

The EMD-Serono Cancer Immunotherapy Clinical Fellowship Experience

Marco Ruella, MD
Gill Laboratory



UNIVERSITY OF
PENNSYLVANIA
Abramson Cancer Center

Translational Research Program

Dir. Dr. Carl H. June

Disclosures

No relationships exist related to this presentation

2014 SITC-EMD Serono Cancer Immunotherapy Clinical Fellowship Award



The Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer (SITC) is pleased to announce that SITC member, Marco Ruella, MD of the University of Pennsylvania, is the recipient of the 2014 SITC-EMD Serono Cancer Immunotherapy Clinical Fellowship Award. This award is the first of its kind offered by the Society. Congratulations Dr. Ruella!

Dr. Ruella was selected as the winner of this award for his project, titled, "Duel Chimeric Antigen Receptor T Cell Therapy for Human B-Cell Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia."

"I'm very honored to be the first recipient of this fellowship award and I would like to thank the Society and the award committee for choosing my project," said Dr. Ruella. "The goal of my research project is to treat patients with relapsing or refractory B-cell Leukemia with Chimeric Antigen Receptor T cells targeting multiple antigens, in order to avoid tumor escape. As powerful new therapies are developed that enhance the immune response to malignancy, it will be important for us to stay ahead of cancer's escape mechanisms. One way to do this is with combination therapies."

This year's award was established through the generosity of EMD-Serono and is intended to support the development of the next generation of immunotherapy experts. Through this funding of novel research, the Society intends to cultivate those individuals who have a vested interest in furthering the clinical research and translation of cancer immunotherapy. The Society wishes to thank EMD-Serono for their partnership in offering this one-year, \$100,000 award, as it comes at an extremely important time in cancer research.

"In order to continue to propel the field forward, SITC is committed to furthering research and education opportunities primarily for early career scientists," said SITC's Vice President, Dr. Howard Kaufman. "Through this type of support, we can discover innovative research and development projects that can bring us closer to identifying new immunotherapies to help cancer patients in need."

Dr. Ruella will be highlighted on Saturday, November 8, 2014 at the Award Ceremony to be held during the [Society's Annual Meeting](#) in National Harbor, MD. (November 7-9, 2014). Dr. Ruella will also speak about his fellowship experience during the [Professional Development Session](#) held on November 9th, as part of the SITC Annual Meeting & Associated Programs.

"The SITC-EMD Serono Cancer Immunotherapy Clinical Fellowship Award has a central role in my career development and long-term in promoting the transition towards an independent position as an investigator bridging the gap between the laboratory and the clinic," said Ruella. "In addition, as my first major successful grant, this award helps to provide much-needed confidence on the road to further funding applications."

To stay up-to-date with the latest SITC fellowship announcements and other funding opportunities from the Society, please visit www.sitcancer.org/support/forwardfund/awards.

**SITC-EMD Serono
Cancer Immunotherapy Clinical Fellowship**

One-year • \$100,000 award
Apply today through April 7, 2014

Forward  Fund
Advancing Cancer Immunotherapy

Dear Colleague,

The SITC-EMD Serono Cancer Immunotherapy Clinical Fellowship Award will provide funding support in the amount of \$100,000 for one year of salary, equipment, supplies, and fringe benefit support to a young investigator.

SITC recognizes that young scientists are instrumental to cancer immunotherapy research, and in concert with the Society's mission to improve cancer patient outcomes through the development and application of cancer immunotherapy, this fellowship will provide one promising young investigator with the support needed to further their unique clinical research area.

In a time when resources are tight but the need for innovation is endless, we hope that you will encourage your lab fellows, colleagues, and mentees to apply, or even apply yourself for this fellowship award. For more information on this award or the *Forward Fund*, click the banner above or contact Haley Haas at hhaas@sitcancer.org.

Best regards,



Francesco Marincola, MD
SITC President

Howard L. Kaufman, MD, FACS
SITC Vice President

Tara Withington, CAE
SITC Executive Director

SITC Fellowship Details

Sponsors:

- Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer (SITC) Forward Fund and EMD-Serono

Amount:

- This one-year fellowship award will provide **\$100,000 in support**, which may be allocated to **salary, equipment, supplies, and fringe benefits (no indirect costs)**.

Eligibility:

- Hold an **MD** or combined MD/PhD degree
- Currently hold a position at a leading academic cancer center as a **post-doctoral fellow, resident, research scientist or comparable position**
- Be a **SITC member** in good standing at time of submission (i.e., current in dues)
- Commit **75% of their workday to research supported by the fellowship**

Selection and Terms

Selection:

- Selection is made by the **SITC Grant Review Committee**.

Terms:

- Receipt of this award does not preclude the applicant from obtaining grant support from other sources.
- Support from the SITC Cancer Immunotherapy Clinical Fellowship Award **is to be acknowledged** in presentations and publications resulting from the research sponsored by the award.
- The recipient must submit a halfway point (6 months) and a final **written progress report** to SITC, including disposition of funds. Any unused funds will be returned to SITC.
- The recipient will present **the final results of his/her research at the SITC Annual Meeting** as well as submit an abstract during the regular abstract submission process.

Application process

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL <https://www.conferenceabstracts.com/cfp2/home.asp>. The page features logos for SITC (Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer), Forward Fund (Advancing Cancer Immunotherapy), and EMD Serono. A navigation bar includes links for "Fellowship Award (closes 4/7/2014, 11:59 PM EST) | Log Out", "Award Details", and "Technical Support".

The main content area is divided into three columns:

- AWARD INFORMATION**: 2014 SITC-EMD Serono Cancer Immunotherapy Clinical Fellowship Award. Deadline: 4/7/2014, 11:59 PM EST. [Contact the Award Manager](#)
- YOUR PROFILE**: Marco Ruella, MD, University of Pennsylvania. Logins: [Log Out](#), [View / Edit Your Profile](#)
- SUBMIT FEEDBACK**: We always welcome feedback, and we want to hear what you like and what can be improved. [Feedback Form](#)

FELLOWSHIP AWARD APPLICATIONS (you have 0 complete fellowship award applications, 0 incomplete fellowship award applications and 0 withdrawn fellowship award applications)

- Fellowship project
- CV
- 1 statement of purpose
- 1 sponsor statement
- 3 recommendation letters



June 16, 2014

Marco Ruella, MD
Smilow Translational Research Center, 9-190
3400 Civic Center Boulevard
Philadelphia, PA 19104-5157

Dear Dr. Ruella,

On behalf of the Society for the Immunotherapy of Cancer (SITC) and EMD Serono, I am writing to congratulate you for being chosen as the recipient of 2014 SITC-EMD Serono Cancer Immunotherapy Clinical Fellowship Award. Your application was evaluated by a prestigious review committee of SITC leadership and has been found to be deserving of this award.

Provided with this letter are documents that further outline the responsibilities of receiving the award, as well as forms to be filled out and returned to the Society to confirm your acceptance.

Fellowship Forms Overview:

- Fellowship Disbursement Overview to be completed and returned (Friday, June 20, 2014)
- Fellowship Schedule of Activities Form for your review. Includes details on the Award Ceremony and schedule of events for the SITC 2014 Annual Meeting in National Harbor, MD
- Fellowship Acceptance Confirmation to be completed and returned (Friday, June 20, 2014)
- Fellowship Reimbursement Policy to be completed and returned (Friday, June 20, 2014)

We will be making a public announcement shortly via e-mail distribution to our entire database, as well as a formal press release. If there is a specific outlet, such as your hometown paper, funders or local media outlets where you would like this to appear, please contact SITC, and we can get it to them as well.

Once again, I congratulate you on your award and look forward to learn more on your outstanding research. If you have questions about your award, attached documents or the funding, please contact Jody Felski at the SITC Executive Office at (414) 271-2456 or at jfelski@sitcancer.org. See you in November in National Harbor, Maryland at the 2014 Annual Meeting.

Sincerely,

Tara Withington
Tara Withington, CAE
Executive Director, SITC

Important Dates

Application Open - Feb. 24
Application Close - April 7
Winner Announced - June 1
Fellowship Start - July 1
Annual Meeting Presentation
- Nov. 2015



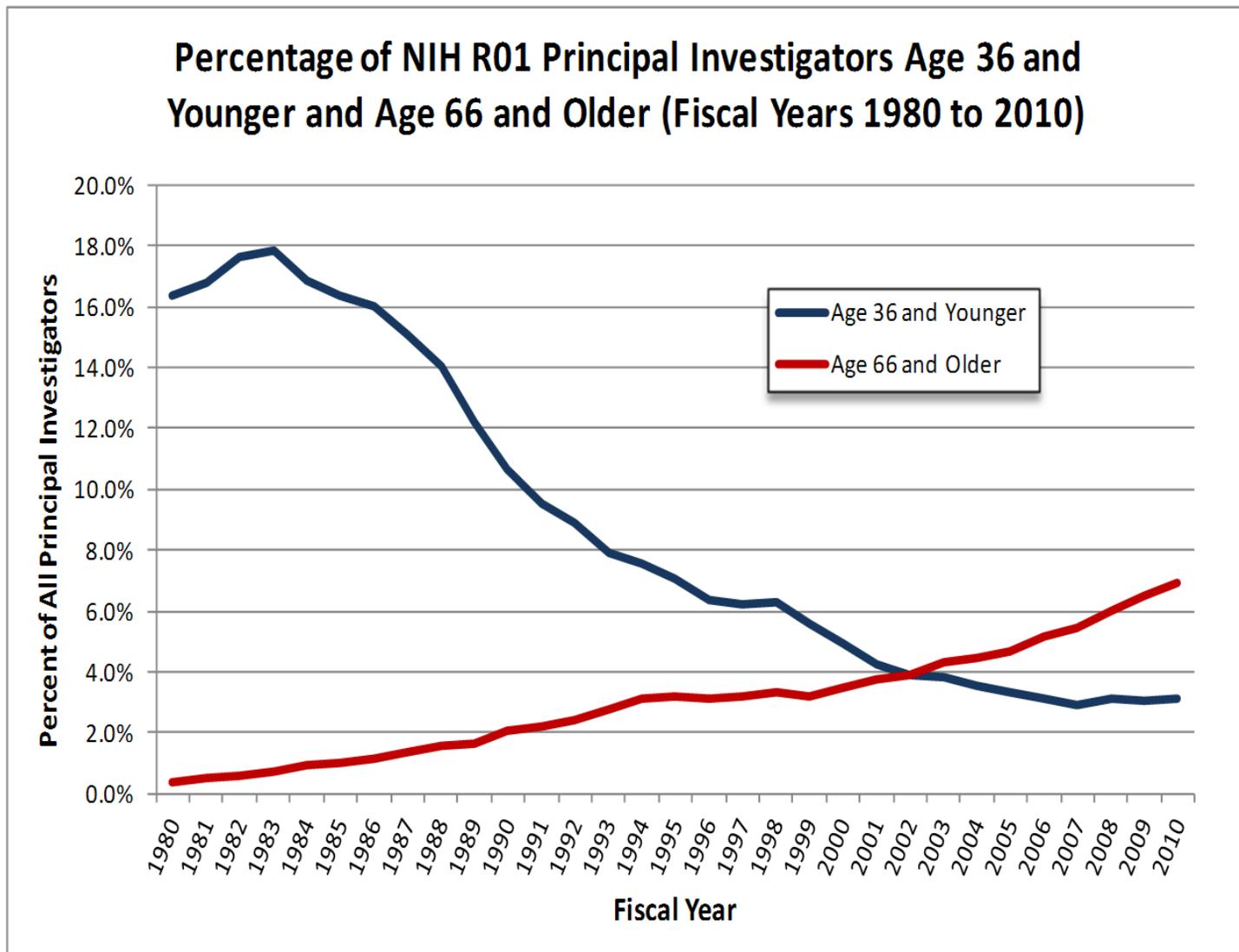
SITC Announcement Plan

- **Press release to announce award.** (If there are specific outlets, such as your hometown paper, funders or local media where you would like this announcement to appear, please contact SITC and we can get it to them as well)
- **Broadcast email announcing your fellowship to SITC's entire database**
- **Recipient photo and bio on Forward Fund section of website** – special fellowship page
- **Mention on SITC social media outlets including LinkedIn and Twitter**

SITC Annual Meeting Plan

- **Special signage** at 2014 Annual Meeting & Associated Programs
- **Highlighted in the 2014 Annual Meeting Final Program**
- **Special mention** at SITC Membership Business Meeting
- **Highlight at the Awards Ceremony** held during SITC Annual Meeting

Why is the SITC fellowship important?



Aim and peculiarities of the SITC fellowship

College/
High School

Med School

Fell./Res.
Post Doc

Independent
Research

SITC

- **Significant budget (\$100,000 for 1 year)**
- **Few restrictions, open to non-US citizens**
- **Easy system to apply, limited number of documents requested; Staff is very supportive and helpful**
- **Excellent timing (3 mos from application to availability of funds)**
- **Great exposure and networking**

Not just all about science...

ASCO

50th ANNUAL
MEETING
SCIENCE & SOCIETY

May 30–June 3, 2014
McCormick Place
Chicago, Illinois



Thanks to SITC

- **Francesco Marincola, MD**
- **Howard Kaufman, MD**
- Thomas F. Gajewski, MD, PhD
- Lisa H. Butterfield, PhD
- Pierre Coulie, MD, PhD
- Sandra Demaria, MD
- Pawel Kalinski, MD, PhD
- Cornelis J.M. Melief, MD, PhD
- Ira Mellman, PhD
- A. Karolina Palucka, MD, PhD
- Nicholas P. Restifo, MD
- Suzanne Topalian, MD
- Jedd D. Wolchok, MD, PhD
- Pedro J. Romero, MD
- **Tara Withington, CAE**
- **Angela Kilbert**
- **Jody Felski**
- **Anna Emrick**
- **...and all SITC staff**



Collaborators

Saar Gill

Olga Shestova

Saad S. Kenderian

Carl June

Regina Young

Gabriela Plesa

John Scholler

DeCheng Song

David Porter

Michael Kalos



David Barrett

Ted Hofmann

Stephan Grupp

Laura Johnson

Alina Boesteanu

Alexia Cogdill

Michael Feldman

Martin Carroll



EMD-Serono
Clinical Fellowship

Simon Lacey

Jos Melenhorst

Farzana Nazimuddin

Irina Kulikovskaya

Vanessa Gonzalez

Fang Chen

Keith Mansfield

Jennifer Brogdon

GABRIELLE'S
ANGEL FOUNDATION
FOR CANCER RESEARCH



2015 SITC-Merck Cancer Immunotherapy Clinical Fellowship Award



SITC is pleased to announce the 2015 postdoctoral fellowship in cancer immunotherapy in partnership with Merck .

The SITC-Merck Cancer Immunotherapy Clinical Fellowship Award will provide funding support in the amount of \$100,000 for one year of salary, equipment, supplies, and fringe benefit support to a young investigator. The award also includes travel support to attend the SITC 2015 Annual Meeting and the opportunity to present their work to the cancer immunotherapy community at this venue.

To be eligible for this fellowship, applicants must:

- Hold an MD or combined MD/PhD degree
- Currently hold a position at a leading academic cancer center as a post-doctoral fellow, resident, research scientist or comparable position
- Be a SITC member in good standing at time of submission
- Have a pre-arranged fellowship mentor
- Submit four letters of recommendation: one from the mentor, along with three personal references
- Commit 75% of the workday to research supported by the fellowship

While assistant/associate professors are not exempt from applying for the fellowship, they should be discouraged from doing so, especially if they are on a tenure track. The fellowship award is largely a training award and a candidate who is not yet on a tenure track and is early in their career will be viewed more favorably than an individual who is already on a career path in a tenure track. One application per person.

SITC recognizes that young scientists are instrumental to cancer immunotherapy research, and in concert with the

Society's mission to improve cancer patient outcomes through the development and application of cancer immunotherapy, this fellowship will provide one promising young investigator with the support needed to further their unique clinical research area.

In a time when resources are tight, but the need for innovation is endless, we hope that you will encourage your lab fellows, colleagues, and mentees to apply, or even apply yourself for this fellowship award. For more information on this award or the *Forward Fund*, click the banner above or contact Jody Felski at jlfelski@sitcancer.org.

Important Dates

Award Details Posted – November 2014

Application Open – January 2015

Winner Announced - June 2015

Fellowship Start – July 2015

More information about the award including submission instructions will be made available in the coming months.