



BLAVATNIK Fund for Innovation at Yale

GOAL: Advance Yale's biomedical technologies to the stage where they are ready for partnership (i.e. bridge the "development gap")

SUCCESSFUL OUTCOMES:

- Startup formation
- Licenses to biotech and pharma
- Major industry-sponsored research agreements

Made possible by a grant from the Blavatnik Family Foundation

Pilot Grants:

\$100k for
1 year

Development Grants:

\$300k for
1-2 years

- **Most or all of funding used to pay for work at contract research organizations (CROs) ... *not intended to support research within Yale labs***
- **SELECTION CRITERIA:**
 - **Research addresses major unmet need**
 - **Strong indications of commercial interest**
 - **Technology is near a “value inflection point”**
 - **Technology is patentable with freedom to operate**
 - **Engaged, committed principal investigator**

2017 Awards (\$1.6 million total)

- 8 awards from 60+ pre-proposals, 17 finalists)
- 4 Development Awards of \$300K each
 - Small molecule drug discovery (oncology)
 - Small molecule drug discovery (fibrosis)
 - Small molecule drug discovery (neuro)
 - Large molecule drug discovery (rare disease)
- 4 Pilot Awards of \$100K each
 - Small molecule drug discovery (oncology)
 - Small molecule drug discovery (diabetes)
 - Nanoparticle drug delivery (derm)
 - Medical device (surgical tool)

2018 Awards (\$1.5 million total)

- 70+ pre-proposals, 13 finalists
- 5 Development Awards of \$300K each
 - Small molecule drug discovery (oncology)
 - Large molecule drug discovery (rare disease)
 - Large molecule drug discovery (oncology)
 - Oligonucleotide drug discovery (autoimmune)
 - Phage drug discovery (antibacterial)

2019 Awards (\$2.0 million total)

- 70+ pre-proposals, 14 finalists
- Small molecule drug discovery (antifungal)
- Small molecule drug discovery (oncology)
- Small molecule drug development (pulmonary)
- Small molecule drug discovery (platform)
- Small molecule drug discovery (platform)
- Large molecule drug discovery (oncology platform)
- Large molecule drug discovery (oncology)
- Phage drug discovery (antibacterial)

2020 Awards (Up to \$2.6 million)

- *Applications due Oct 30, 2019*

How to Get Started: **KEY DATES**

- Info session and “How to Pitch” tips from Colleen Cuffaro (Investor from Canaan Partners) **Friday Sep 20th 12pm** 110 Hope
- Info session and “How to Pitch” tips from Stacey Seltzer (Investor from Aisling Capital) **Friday Oct 4th 12pm** 110 Hope
- Pre-proposal application process opens **Oct 1st** with rolling admissions over 4 weeks (Help from Fellows available upon applying!)
- Pre-proposal final deadline: **Oct. 28th 5pm** (limit one proposal per PI)
- Quarterfinalist Pitch Evaluations: **Wednesday, Nov. 6th, Thursday Nov. 7th, or Thursday Nov. 14th** (appearing for an appointment on one of the 3 days is required)
- Semifinalists selected to pitch at “YALE LIFESCIENCES PITCHFEST” on **Friday Dec. 6th (required)**
- Finalists selected by Board and notified Jan 17, 2020
- Full proposals due April 29, 2020,
- Final Presentations to the Board Tuesday, May 12, 2020 (required)
- Funding start date: July 1, 2020

A 5-minute slide pitch is all you need for your pre-proposal submission!

Just get together 6-8 PowerPoint slides that you can present in 5 minutes that answer these basic questions:

What's the product/service?

What's the market?

What's the competition?

What are your differentiating unique benefits?

How would this product make money?

What's your current team and status?

What exactly would you accomplish with Blavatnik funding?

What do you aim to make happen with these results in hand? With whom?

YALE LIFESCIENCES PITCHFEST

Friday December 6, 2019 Alexion Building (TBD)

- Top 32 Blavatnik applicants will pitch in front of a live audience of pharmaceutical, biotech, and venture executives and entrepreneurs, as well as others in the Yale and local life sciences community
- Pitches will be filmed! Slide decks and videos will be used for BOTH selection of finalists by the Blavatnik Board, and for marketing of opportunities to corporations, investment firms, and entrepreneurs on the OCR marketing portal