The Friedman Brain Institute Announces 2016 FBI Research Scholars

On behalf of the Philanthropic Leadership Council of The Friedman Brain Institute, we are pleased to announce the inaugural class of FBI Research Scholars who will be recipients of pilot awards through the FBI Research Scholars Partnership.

Richard and Susan Friedman Research Scholar Award:

Junqian Xu, PhD
Assistant Professor of Radiology and Neuroscience
Translational and Molecular Imaging Institute (TMII)

Paula Croxson, PhD
Assistant Professor of Neuroscience and Psychiatry
Friedman Brain Institute

Project: “Exploring the functional and metabolic imaging features of neuroplasticity in brainstem and spinal cord”

Nash Family Research Scholar Award:

Roland Friedel, PhD
Assistant Professor of Neuroscience and Neurosurgery

Hongyan Zou, PhD
Associate Professor of Neuroscience and Neurosurgery

Project: “Utilizing methylation reporter to assay locus-specific methylation dynamics in Glioblastoma”

Rosen Family Research Scholar Award:

Ian S. Maze, PhD
Assistant Professor of Pharmacology and Systems Therapeutics and Neuroscience


We were delighted by the enthusiastic interest of Mount Sinai’s neurosciences community in this new Research Scholars program. We received over 70 proposals, which were reviewed by a faculty committee. Many outstanding and innovative ideas were proposed and we look forward to the continuation of this opportunity next year.

The Friedman Brain Institute Research Scholars Partnership

The goal of The Friedman Brain Institute is to coordinate all neuroscience research at Mount Sinai—both basic and clinical—being carried out in numerous departments on campus, and to build translational bridges to clinical treatment programs throughout the new Mount Sinai Health System.

Funded entirely through philanthropy, the Research Scholars Partnership seeks to further this goal by encouraging innovative, pilot brain research and offering Mount Sinai’s most promising researchers—who are venturing into a new area of investigation—the freedom and flexibility to follow science wherever it leads.