The Lupus Research Alliance is the largest private funder of lupus research, united to free the world of lupus by harnessing the power of science to make a difference for people living with this autoimmune disease. Merging the resources of the former Alliance for Lupus Research, Lupus Research Institute and the S.L.E. Lupus Foundation, the new organization has collectively committed over $173 million for the most innovative lupus research around the globe.

OUR RESEARCH FUNDING MECHANISMS:	
Dr. William E. Paul Distinguished Innovator Award (DIA) in Lupus and Autoimmunity	The Dr. William E. Paul Distinguished Innovator Award in Lupus and Autoimmunity was created to address the current lack of treatments in development that could arrest or reverse the disease. The only privately funded awards of this scale in lupus, the $1 million award challenges exceptional scientists to pursue innovative, hypothesis- or discovery-driven worldwide projects in human and/or animal model based lupus research that aims to uncover the fundamental root causes of lupus and present a compelling vision of how the discovery would begin the drive to a cure and open the door to prevention.
Target Identification in Lupus Grant (TIL) Program	Under our Target Identification in Lupus (TIL) grant program, investigators leverage a two-year, up-to-$400,000 award, to remove the barriers to new treatments and a possible cure. All research funded under the TIL program is based on realizable goals for translation into therapeutic discovery programs — that is, research that can move quickly from the laboratory to the patient's bedside. Researchers also have the opportunity to apply for a third year of funding through a non-competitive progress report. All lupus research funded under the TIL program is based on realizable goals for translation into therapeutic discovery programs — that is, research discoveries become useful therapies in the near future.
Novel Research Grants (Novel)	The Novel Research Grant program provides early-stage support with three-year $300,000 grants for high-risk, high-reward, idea-driven, novel research projects relevant to basic, translational or clinical investigation in lupus. Exceptionally creative and innovative, projects advance novel scientific hypotheses in lupus, aim to stimulate investigation of underexplored pathways, and initiate transformative discoveries that can drive the development of safer and more effective treatments. Open to the global research community, the Novel Research Grants foster investigations into the fundamental mechanisms of lupus and its complications, explorations of novel targets and pathways, and novel technologies. Applications from investigators in diverse disciplines, including those who may not have worked in lupus are encouraged.
Lupus Investigators Network Grants (LuCin)	The Lupus Investigators Network (LuCIN) was formed to accelerate the identification and development of new therapies to treat lupus. The goals of LuCIN are to: conduct safe and reliable clinical studies to test drugs already approved for other diseases or new compounds for their potential use as treatments for lupus; facilitate sharing of clinical and biological data to better understand lupus; and enlist patient input and participation in clinical studies. To achieve these goals, LuCIN provides grants of up to $80,000 annually to cover institutional infrastructure costs for LuCIN clinical study activities. Submissions are evaluated on the institutions' resources and capabilities to conduct lupus clinical trials.

If you have questions about any of the Lupus Research Alliance grant mechanisms, please contact Diomaris Gonzalez, Director of Grant Programs at dgonzalez@lupusresearch.org or 212-218-2840.

Distinguished Innovator Award (DIA)			
Investigator	***Institution***	***State/ Country***	***Project Title***
2016			
Reizis, Boris, PhD	New York University School of Medicine	NY	Origin, regulation and therapeutic targeting of extracellular DNA
Fu, Shu Man, MD, PhD	University of Virginia	VA	Local factors contributing to pathogenesis of proliferative lupus nephritis
2015			
Mayadas, Tanya, PhD	Brigham and Women's Hospital and Harvard Medical School	MA	IgG glycans, FcgRs and renal elements dictate antibody pathogenicity in SLE
Morand, Eric, PhD	Monash University	Australia	GILZ: glucocorticoid mediator, B cell regulator, and lupus target
2014			
Chen, Zhijian, PhD	University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center	TX	Roles of the cGAS pathway in lupus
Green, Douglas, PhD	St. Jude Children's Research Hospital	TN	Non-canonical autophagy, phagocytosis, and SLE
Noelle, Randy, PhD	Dartmouth College	NH	Targetting the VISTA pathway prevents fatal systemic lupus
2013			
Smith, Kenneth, MD, PhD	The University of Cambridge	UK	A Transcriptional focus on new cells and pathways in SLE
Tarlinton, David, PhD	Monash University and Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research	Australia	Attacking the source: targeting plasma cell survival in lupus
2012			
Barton, Gregory, PhD	University of California, Berkeley	CA	Defining factors that control the initial break in tolerance in lupus
Marshak-Rothstein, Ann, PhD	University of Massachusetts Medical School	MA	DNA- and RNA-associated autoantigens in the activation of human B cells

Target Identification in Lupus (TIL)

Investigator	Institution	State/ Country	Project Title
2016			
Davidson , Anne, MBBS	The Feinstein Institute for Medical Research	NY	The role of TLR8 in lupus nephritis
Fan , Rong, PhD	Yale University	CT	Dissecting the effector function of pathogenic Tfh cells in human lupus
Greenberg, Roger, MD, PhD	University of Pennsylvania	PA	BRISC DUB Activity as a Novel Target for Lupus
Liu , Ming-Lin, PhD	University of Pennsylvania Health System	PA	A novel target for neutrophil NETosis in lupus skin inflammation
Mamula , Mark J., PhD	Yale University	CT	Therapeutic inhibitors of antigen presentation pathways in SLE
Morel , Laurence, PhD	University of Florida	FL	Targeting follicular helper CD4 T cells in SLE
Nundel , Kerstin, PhD	University of Massachusetts Medical School	FL	TLR9 regulates Axl dependent migration of autoreactive B cells
2015			
Carroll, Michael, PhD	Children's Hospital Boston	MA	Investigating the mechanisms of lupus-associated CNS dysfunction
Craft, Joseph, MD	Yale University	CT	Characterization and function of CD4 T cell subsets in lupus
Criswell, Lindsey, MD, MPH	University of California, San Francisco	CA	The contribution of epigenetics to SLE phenotype and outcome
Elkon, Keith, MD	University of Washington	WA	The cyclic GAMP pathway in SLE
Fathman, Charles, MD	Stanford University	CA	Understanding the MoA of low dose IL-2 as a potential therapy for SLE
Fu, Shu Man, MD, PhD	University of Virginia	VA	IL-2 and IL-33 as therapeutic agents for lupus nephritis
Jarjour, Wael, MD	The Ohio State University	OH	Regulation of T follicular helper cells in SLE by E3 ubiquitin ligase Cbl-b
Jefferies, Caroline, PhD	Cedars-Sinai Medical Center	CA	Estrogen-dependent microRNAs as potential targets for the treatment of SLE
Kontaridis, Maria, PhD	Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center	MA	Role for SHP2 as a therapeutic target for systemic lupus erythematosus
Kosiewicz, Michele, PhD	University of Louisville Research Foundation, Inc.	KY	Sex and microbiota influence on immunoregulation and disease in BWF1 mice
Rothlin, Carla, PhD	Yale University	CT	Protein S: at the crossroads of thrombosis and inflammation in SLE
Stohl, William, MD, PhD	University of Southern California	CA	Therapeutic targeting of FcgRIIb on B cells in SLE
Tsao, Betty, PhD	Medical University of South Carolina	SC	Targeting IL-10 producing B cells in SLE
Xiao, Sheng, PhD	Brigham and Women's Hospital, Inc.	MA	Role of Tim-1 in kidneys during lupus
Yan, Nan, PhD	UT Southwestern Medical Center	TX	Glycans and glycosylation defects as novel targets in lupus
2014			
Alarcon-Riquelme, Marta E., MD, PhD	Fundacion Publica Andaluza Progreso Y Salud - Spain	Spain	Influence of BANK1 in the in vivo development of lupus
Casali, Paolo, MD	University of Texas Health Science Center	TX	B cell histone modifications and non-coding RNA as targets in lupus therapy
Cohen, Philip, MD	Temple University	PA	Aggregated MAVS as a disease mechanism in SLE
Erickson, Loren D., PhD	University of Virginia	VA	Role of the BAFF receptor BCMA to control B cell homeostasis and tolerance
Jacob, Chaim Oscar, MD, PhD	University of Southern California	CA	Towards understanding the role of NCF2 in SLE
Lu, Theresa T., MD, PhD	The Hospital for Special Surgery	NY	Targeting a dendritic cell-stromal axis in lupus
Mohan, Chandra, MD, PhD	University of Houston	TX	Bradykinins in Lupus
Morel, Laurence, PhD Roopenian, Derry, PhD	University of Florida The Jackson Laboratory	FL ME	High through-put screening to repurpose drugs for lupus therapeutics
Peterson, Erik Jon, MD	University of Minnesota - Twin Cities	MN	Targeting interferogenic signals regulated by SLE risk gene PTPN22
Rathmell, Jeffrey C., PhD	Vanderbilt University Medical Center	TN	Metabolism of effector T cells as a target in SLE
Sullivan, Kathleen, MD, PhD	The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia	PA	IRF1 decoy treatment
Wakeland, Edward K., PhD	UT Southwestern Medical Center	TX	Identifying functional variants that underlie SLE susceptibility

Novel Research Grants (Novel)			
Investigator	***Institution***	***State/ Country***	***Project Title***
2016			
Acharya, Mridu, PhD	Benaroya Research Institute at Virginia Mason	WA	Autophagy components and B cell activation during SLE
Giltiay, Natalia, PhD	University of Washington	WA	Anti-BDCA2-targeted therapy for SLE
Jackson, Shaun, MD, PhD	Seattle Children's Hospital	WA	B cell-intrinsic cytokine reg of spontaneous germinal ctr formation in SLE
Knight, Andrea, MD	The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia	PA	Multi-level biomarkers for psychiatric disorders in pediatric lupus
Kumar, Vipin, PhD	University of California, San Diego	CA	Targeting type II NKT cells for a novel therapeutic in lupus
Lood, Christian, PhD	University of Washington	WA	Impaired mitochondrial clearance in systemic lupus erythematosus
Rongvaux, Anthony, PhD	Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center	WA	Mitochondria, caspases and Type I interferons in autoimmunity
Shi, Guo-Ping, DSc	Brigham and Women's Hospital	MA	Cathepsin S inhibitor-modified Treg cells mitigate murine SLE
Zhang, John, DVM, PhD	Medical University of South Carolina	SC	A novel approach for treating lupus by inhibiting Fli1 transcription factor
Zhang, Zhiqiang, PhD	The Methodist Hospital Research Institute	TX	Oxidized mitochondrial DNA employs APEX1 in neutrophils to control lupus
2015			
Abrahams, Vikki, PhD	Yale University	CT	Role of infection in obstetric antiphospholipid syndrome
Camarero, Julio, PhD	University of Southern California	CA	Therapeutic selective targeting of BAFF receptors
Criswell, Lindsey, MD, MPH	University of California, San Francisco	CA	Pesticides and chemical exposures, DNA methylation, and SLE phenotypes
Gallucci, Stefania, MD	Temple University	PA	Bacterial amyloids from biofilms break tolerance in lupus
Garrett-Sinha, Lee Ann, MD	The Research Foundation for The SUNY on behalf of University at Buffalo	NY	Understanding the pathway regulated by the lupus susceptibility gene Ets1
Hsu, Hui-Chen, PhD	The University of Alabama at Birmingham	AL	Repopulation of tolerogenic B cells post B cell depletion therapy in lupus
Mandik-Nayak, Laura, PhD	Lankenau Institute for Medical Research	PA	IDO2, a novel therapeutic target for the treatment of lupus
Niewold, Timothy, MD	Mayo Clinic	MN	Tolerogenic dendritic cells in human lupus
Scofield, Hal, MD	University of Oklahoma, Health Sciences Center	OK	Sex disparity in lupus is driven by putative X-linked genes
Vilen, Barbara, PhD	The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	NC	Cross sectional and longitudinal studies of immune complexes in SLE
Weirauch, Matthew, PhD	Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center Research Foundation	OH	A free website for discovering non-coding lupus-associated variant function
Wu, Tianfu, PhD	University of Houston	TX	PLK1, a potential novel therapeutic target for lupus
2014			
Anthony, Robert, PhD	Massachusetts General Hospital, Harvard Medical School	MA	Therapeutic potential of sialylated IgG Fc In SLE
Boesen, Erika, PhD	Nebraska Medical Center	NE	Iron and ER stress in lupus nephritis
Chepelev, Iouri, PhD	Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center	OH	Identification of lupus causal variants at 8p23.1 by mapping 3D genome
Davidson, Anne, MD	Feinstein Medical Research Institute	NY	Altered renal circadian rhythm in SLE nephritis
Fitzgerald, Kate, PhD	University of Massachusetts Medical School	MA	The role of the long non-coding RNA lincRNA-Eps in Lupus
Janssen, Edith, PhD	Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center - Research Foundation	OH	CD244 targeting therapeutics in SLE
Kriegel, Martin, MD, PhD	Yale University	CT	A Role for diet-sensitive gut commensals in systemic autoimmunity
Radic, Marko, PhD	University of Tennessee, Memphis	TN	CD19-targeted cytotoxic T cells for lupus therapy
Stein, Michael, MB, ChB	Vanderbilt University Medical Center	TN	Tissue sodium in autoimmune disease
Ueno, Hideki, MD, PhD	Mount Sinai School of Medicine	NY	A new disease mechanism in lupus
Walter, Mark, PhD	University of Alabama at Birmingham	AL	Single Cell Detection of IFN Signaling in Lupus Patients

Lupus Investigators Network Grants (LuCin)			
Investigator	***Institution***	***State/ Country***	***Project Title***
2016			
Pisetsky, David, MD, PhD Rovin, Brad, MD Pendergraft, Will, MD, PhD	Duke University The Ohio University Wexner Medical Center UNC Kidney Center	NC OH NC	A pilot study of the utility of Dynamic Contract Enhanced (DCE) MRI in the evaluation of lupus nephritis
Germano, David F., PhD	University of Virginia Contemplative Sciences Center	VA	An innovative contemplation-based intervention to suppress disease and promote health and well-being tailored for people living with systemic lupus erythematosus