



*Karie Robinson, RN, APRN  
2015 NP/PA Clinical  
Hepatology Fellowship*

2016

.....  
Annual  
.....  
Report



**AASLD**  
FOUNDATION

KNOWLEDGE  
PRACTICE  
CURE®

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**Vision:**

Prevent and cure liver disease

**Mission:**

To invest in innovative hepatology research and in the people who study and treat liver disease

.....

## About AASLD Foundation

**Imagine a world without liver diseases.** We can see that world – and we believe it is possible. That’s why we are boldly investing in innovative hepatology research, and in the people who study and treat liver disease.

AASLD Foundation was created to fill the void between bright, talented researchers and the funding needed to encourage their discoveries. Additionally, we exist to provide essential resources to train health care professionals in providing care for patients with liver disease.

As the largest private supporter of hepatology research in the US, we have awarded nearly \$40 million in research and career development awards since 2000. Every dollar donated is more than doubled when you consider follow-on funding from the NIH and other funding sources.

Whether you are an AASLD member, a researcher, a patient, or a donor – we hope that you will see how AASLD Foundation’s initiatives have made a tremendous difference in the lives of so many during 2016.

If you have questions about our efforts, please contact Julie Deal, Executive Director, AASLD Foundation, at (703) 299-9766 or [foundation@asld.org](mailto:foundation@asld.org).

**Dear Friends of AASLD Foundation:**

**2016 was a tremendous year for AASLD Foundation, its supporters and its award recipients.**

We continued our investment in those studying and treating liver diseases, discovered new ways to connect with like-minded organizations and broadened our audience through refreshed brand communications.

Most notably, the year boasted tremendous impact and growth in several areas:

- Our investment in 20 new Research and Career Development Awardees who will go on to impact hepatology as a specialty as well as people with liver diseases
- 55 travel abstract award recipients who earned the opportunity to present their work at The Liver Meeting®
- A nearly 40% increase in award applicants for the 2017 cycle demonstrating that we are the source that promising researchers and future leaders turn to for funding and for rich career development opportunities
- A 98% increase in the number of donations and a 173% increase in funds raised from AASLD members, patients, and people who joined with us to fight liver disease



*Bruce R. Bacon, MD, FAASLD*

With your generosity, we have increased funding of the Research and Career Development Awards by nearly \$200,000. Your contributions funded an impressive group of young investigators working toward new discoveries in the pursuit of improved treatments and cures. You also invested in medical professionals seeking advanced training in hepatology. We are very proud of — and grateful for — the dedication of this next generation of hepatology leaders.

Our portfolio has expanded due to the generosity AASLD members. In 2016, we established the new Autoimmune Liver Diseases Pilot Research Award and the Afdhal/McHutchison LIFER Award. As a testament to our commitment to those who choose hepatology as their specialty and our investment in the global field of hepatology, two new travel awards were established. An International Young Investigator Travel Award presented in honor of the Korean Association for the Study of the Liver (KASL) was established by W. Ray Kim, MD, MBA, FAASLD, and a Memorial Travel Award in honor of Maribel Rodríguez-Torres, MD was established by Norbert Bräu, MD, FAASLD and Dr. Rodríguez-Torres' many friends and colleagues.

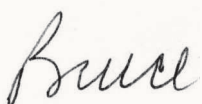
We also found new ways for people to connect with, learn about and support the Foundation – via the “Foundation Corner” in AASLD’s eNews; the Research Awards Ceremony during The Liver Meeting®; online donation opportunities; increased presence at various hepatology conferences; and Fundamentals of Liver Disease (formerly ACT-First).

During The Liver Meeting® 2016, the Foundation spread awareness of its initiatives through the leadership of Anna S. Lok, MD, FAASLD (then AASLD’s President-elect) and our dedicated Board, Development Committee and Research Awards Committee. Additionally, the Foundation’s booth gave visitors the opportunity to learn about award recipients, their contributions to hepatology, and some of our staunchest supporters.

This year, the Foundation launched its refreshed visual identity and communications to deepen our relationship with supporters and awardees, plus engage potential awardees and new allies. We are now reaching even more people with stories of how hepatologists and medical professionals, whom you have helped fund, are changing the world. These new communications reinforce the opportunity the Foundation offers to those seeking initial funding for hepatology research and advanced training for a career in hepatology, while serving as a launching pad for those seeking additional funding post-award. Moreover, these enhancements have helped attract new donors by more clearly showcasing the impacts of the Foundation.

As a community, we cannot be more proud of what we are accomplishing together. I look to the future with great hope for more treatments and cures and continued commitment in supporting those who study and treat liver diseases.

Warm regards,



**Bruce R. Bacon, MD, FAASLD**

Chair, AASLD Foundation Board of Trustees

## 2016 AASLD Foundation Research and Career Development Award Recipients

### Pinnacle Research Award in Liver Disease

A three-year basic science award of \$300,000 (\$100,000/year) that is designed to bridge the gap between completion of research training and attaining status as an independent research scientist and to encourage young investigators to pursue a career in liver-related research. The additional research experience provided by this award enables young researchers to successfully compete for research grants from national sources, particularly the National Institutes of Health (NIH).



**Ricard Masia, MD, PhD**

Massachusetts General Hospital

**Research Project:** *Role of altered cytosolic NADH/NAD+ ratio and SIRT1 signaling in fatty liver disease*

**Mentor:** Raymond T. Chung, MD, FAASLD



**Hayley Nicholls, PhD**

Weill Cornell Medicine

**Research Project:** *Leveraging Gut Microbial Adaptation to Thermal and Nutritional-Stress in the Management of Non-Alcoholic Fatty Liver Disease*

**Mentor:** David E. Cohen, MD, PhD, FAASLD



**Nataliya Razumilava, MD**

University of Michigan

**Research Project:** *Hedgehog Signaling Facilitates Metaplastic Transformation of the Biliary Tract*

**Mentor:** Juanita L. Merchant, MD, PhD



**Irina Tikhanovich, PhD**

University of Kansas Medical Center

**Research Project:** *The role of Protein Arginine Methyltransferase 1 in Innate Immunity*

**Mentor:** Steven A. Weinman, MD, PhD, FAASLD

The 2016 AASLD Foundation Pinnacle Research Awards are made possible through independent grants from AASLD, AbbVie, Gilead Sciences and donors to AASLD Foundation.

### Career Development Award in Liver Transplantation in Memory of the University of Michigan Transplant Team

A two-year award of \$90,000 (\$45,000/year) designed to foster career development for an individual performing clinical and/or translational research in the field of liver transplantation and who has shown commitment to excellence in the field at an early stage in their career.

This award was established to honor the Transplant Survival Flight Team whose transport crashed over Lake Michigan on June 4, 2007 on the return leg of an organ procurement mission. This award honors those dedicated to life-saving organ transplantation.



**Paulo Martins, MD, PhD**

University of Massachusetts Medical School

**Research Project:** *Optimization of Ischemic Liver Grafts with siRNA Gene Silencing Therapeutics During Machine Preservation*

**Mentor:** Pranoti Mandrekar, PhD, FAASLD

The 2016 Career Development Award in Liver Transplantation is made possible through an independent grant from Astellas Scientific & Medical Affairs and donors to AASLD Foundation.

### Clinical and Translational Research Awards

These two-year clinical research and/or translational research awards of \$150,000 (\$75,000/year) are intended to foster career development for young investigators performing clinical and/or translational research in a liver-related area who have shown commitment to excellence at an early stage in their research study.

#### Alan Hofmann Clinical and Translational Research Award in Liver Diseases



**Z. Gordon Jiang, MD, PhD**

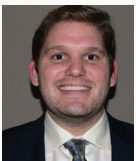
Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center

**Research Project:** *Purinergic signaling in the fibrosis of nonalcoholic fatty liver disease*

**Mentor:** Simon C. Robson, MD, PhD, FRCP, FAASLD

*The 2016 Alan Hofmann Clinical and Translational Research Award in Liver Diseases is made possible through an independent grant from Intercept Pharmaceuticals and donors to AASLD Foundation.*

#### Clinical and Translational Research Awards in Liver Diseases



**Ryan Hlady, PhD**

Mayo Clinic Rochester

**Research Project:** *Deciphering the epigenome in hepatocellular carcinoma*

**Mentor:** Keith D. Robertson, PhD



**Jessica Mellinger, MD, MSc**

University of Michigan

**Research Project:** *Improving Outcomes for Patients with Alcoholic Liver Disease*

**Mentor:** Anna S. Lok, MD, FAASLD

*The 2016 Clinical and Translational Research Awards in Liver Diseases are made possible through independent grants from AASLD, Bristol-Myers Squibb, Merck and donors to AASLD Foundation.*

#### AASLD/LIFER Clinical and Translational Research Fellowship in Liver Diseases

A one year award of \$75,000 designed to foster career development for an individual outside North America to perform clinical research within the United States in a liver-related area and who has shown commitment to excellence at an early stage of his or her research study. The award is intended to provide a mechanism that enables these young investigators to develop independent and productive liver disease research careers.



**Juan Pablo Arab, MD**

Mayo Clinic Rochester

**Research Project:** *Liver injury in alcoholic liver disease: exploring new modulators and biomarkers*

**Mentor:** Vijay Shah, MD

*The 2016 AASLD/LIFER Clinical and Translational Research Fellowship is made possible through independent grants from the Liver Institute and Foundation for Education and Research (LIFER), AASLD and donors to AASLD Foundation.*

### Advanced/Transplant Hepatology Fellowship

**P**rovides \$60,000 in salary and benefit support for gastroenterology (GI) fellows pursuing an additional full-year of training focused on patient care in advanced/transplant hepatology. The intent of the program is to prepare the trainees to be eligible for certification in transplant hepatology by the American Board of Internal Medicine (ABIM) and/or the American Board of Pediatrics (ABP).



**Veeral H. Ajmera, MD, MSc**

University of California, San Francisco

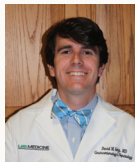
**Mentor:** Norah A. Terrault, MD, MPH



**Amon Asgharpour, MD**

Virginia Commonwealth University

**Mentor:** Arun Sanyal, MD, FAASLD



**David M. Fettig, MD**

University of Alabama at Birmingham

**Mentor:** Joseph R. Bloomer, MD, FAASLD



**Arpan Mohanty, MBBS**

Massachusetts General Hospital

**Mentor:** Raymond T. Chung, MD, FAASLD



**Jonathan G. Stine, MD, MSc, FACP\***

University of Virginia

**Mentor:** Curtis K. Argo, MD



**Amy E. Taylor, MD**

Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center

**Mentor:** Alexander G. Miethke, MD

*The 2016 Advanced/Transplant Hepatology Fellowships are made possible through independent grants from AASLD, Genentech, Gilead Sciences, Janssen Pharmaceuticals Companies, Merck and donors to AASLD Foundation.*

*\*Dr. Stine is also the recipient of the 2016 Paul Angulo Travel Award for the Best Abstract in Clinical NAFLD*

### NP/PA Clinical Hepatology Fellowship

**P**rovides \$78,000 in salary and benefit support for certified and licensed physician assistants (PA) or nurse practitioners (NP) pursuing a full year of training focused on clinical care in hepatology. This award is designed to increase the number of associate practitioners in clinical hepatology; thereby increasing access for liver disease patients to well-trained clinicians.



**Lavinia Goldstein, PA**  
University of Miami  
**Mentor:** Cynthia Levy, MD



**Crystal Halloran, PA-C**  
Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania  
**Mentor:** Maarouf A. Hoteit, MD



**Shane A. Keen, PA-C**  
University of Kentucky Chandler Medical Center  
**Mentor:** Jens Rosenau, MD, PhD



**Karine Lauzon Gravel, CNS**  
CHU Sainte-Justine  
**Mentor:** Fernando Alvarez, MD



**Shannon Tucker, PA-C**  
University of Mississippi Medical Center  
**Mentor:** Brian Borg, MD

*The 2016 NP/PA Clinical Hepatology Fellowships are made possible through independent grants from Bristol-Myers Squibb, Janssen Pharmaceuticals Companies, Merck and donors to AASLD Foundation.*



## 2016 AASLD Foundation Abstract Award Recipients

### Basic Science Young Investigator Travel Awards

These \$1,000 awards recognize outstanding young basic science researchers submitting abstracts to The Liver Meeting®.

**Abhishek Chauhan, MBChB, BmedSci, MRCP**

*Blocking platelet activation dramatically accelerates liver recovery from acetaminophen induced sterile liver injury*

**Mentor:** Prof. David Adams, MD, FRCP, FMedSci

**Hanqing Chen, PhD**

*Pharmacological and Molecular inhibition of mTORC1 Activation Reduces Ethanol-Induced ER Stress and Ameliorates Alcoholic Liver Injury in Mice*

**Mentor:** Mengwei Zang, MD, PhD

**Jason D. Coombes, PhD, BSc**

*Cholangiocyte chemokine secretion and macrophage accumulation is mediated by osteopontin in murine liver models*

**Mentor:** Wing-Kin Syn, MBChB, MRCP

**Sarah Fish, BSc**

*Aged mice exhibit a more proinflammatory and fibrogenic NASH phenotype linked to the induction of Shc and NADPH oxidase 2*

**Mentor:** Natalie J. Torok, MD, MSc, AGAF

**Joel T. Haas, PhD**

*Apolipoprotein F Affects Hepatic Phosphatidylcholine Metabolism and Is Reduced in NASH in Humans.*

**Mentor:** Bart Staels, PhD

**Pushpa Hegde, PhD**

*Profibrogenic functions of mucosal-associated invariant T (MAIT) cells during chronic liver injury*

**Mentor:** Sophie Lotersztajn, PhD

**Petra Hirsova, PhD**

*TRAIL deficiency protects against fibrosis in murine nonalcoholic steatohepatitis (NASH)*

**Mentor:** Gregory J. Gores, MD, FAASLD

**Takanori Ito, MD**

*Secreted Ectodomain of Sialic Acid-Binding Ig-Like Lectin-9 and Monocyte Chemoattractant Protein-1 identified from Dental Pulp Stem Cells Synergistically Resolve Acute Liver Failure in Rats by Altering Macrophage Polarity*

**Mordehay Klepfish, MSc**

*Anti-lysyl oxidase like-2 (LOXL2) treatment paves the way for macrophage-mediated collagen degradation in liver fibrosis*

**Mentor:** Prof. Irit Sagi

**Christiane Koppe**

*A new molecular interaction between IKK $\alpha$ / $\beta$  and RIPK1 regulates biliary homeostasis and hepatocarcinogenesis*

**Mentor:** Tom Luedde, Prof. Dr. med.

**Jacqueline Langedijk, MSc**

*Lysophosphatidic acid induces chronic itch in mice only when locally produced in the skin*

**Mentor:** Prof. dr. R.P.J. Oude-Elferink, PhD

**Jay Luther, MD\***

*Connexin 32 is a critical gatekeeper at the nexus between inflammation and steatosis in ALD and NAFLD*

**Mentor:** Suraj Patel, MD, PhD & Raymond T. Chung, MD, FAASLD

**Ana C. Maretta-Mira, PhD**

*Role of Incomplete Stem Cell Maturation in Hepatic Fibrosis*

**Mentor:** Laurie DeLeve, MD, PhD, FAASLD

**Brett McGettigan, BS**

*RNA-seq of Hepatic Macrophages Isolated from Murine NASH Identifies Diverse Roles for Tissue-resident and Infiltrating Macrophages in Disease Pathogenesis*

**Mentor:** Hugo Rosen, MD, FAASLD

**Matthew McMillin, PhD**

*TGF $\beta$ 1 signaling promotes acetaminophen-induced hepatotoxicity in mice*

**Fernanda Cristina de Mesquita**

*Liraglutide de-activates hepatic stellate cells improving liver microvascular dysfunction and fibrosis in rats with chronic liver disease*

**Mentor:** Jordi Gracia-Sancho, PhD

**Ben Murray, PhD**

*Methionine Adenosyltransferase  $\alpha$ 1 is targeted to the mitochondrial matrix and interacts with cytochrome P450 2E1 to affect its functionality*

**Mentor:** Shelly Lu, MD

**Sarah Raevens, MD**

*Placental growth factor inhibition alleviates hepatopulmonary syndrome in mice*

**Mentor:** Isabelle Colle, MD, PhD, Anja Geerts, MD, PhD, & Christophe Van Steenkiste, MD, PhD

**Davor Slijepcevic, MD**

*Hepatic uptake of conjugated bile acids mediated by both NTCP and OATPs is repressed by intestinal sensing of plasma bile acid levels*

**Veronika Tillander, PhD**

*Thioesterase Superfamily Member 2 (Them2) Enables Glycerol-3-Phosphate Acyltransferase 1 (GPAT1) to Promote Glucose Intolerance in the Setting of Hepatic Steatosis*

**Mentor:** David E. Cohen, MD, PhD, FAASLD

AASLD Foundation gratefully acknowledges funding for the 2016 Basic Science Young Investigators Travel Awards is made possible through support from AASLD and the Henry M. and Lillian Stratton Basic Research Single Topic Conference Endowment.

\*Dr. Luther was also the recipient of the 2014 Sheila Sherlock Clinical and Translational Research Award.

### Fellow Research Award

This \$1,000 award is given for the best abstract submitted by a fellow to The Liver Meeting®.

**Nan Wu, MD**

*Knockout of the secretin receptor (SR) reduces biliary lipoapoptosis, lipid accumulation, senescence, and liver fibrosis in high-fat diet-induced obese mice.*

**Mentor:** Gianfranco Alpini, PhD, FAASLD

*AASLD Foundation acknowledges funding for the 2016 Fellow Research Award is made possible by a grant from the SunTrust Foundation.*

### International Young Investigator Travel Award Presented in honor of the Korean Association for the Study of the Liver (KASL)

This \$1,500 award provides travel support to a young international researcher, residing in Korea, who has submitted a highly meritorious abstract for The Liver Meeting®.

**So Yeon Kim, B.Agr**

*NADPH oxidase 2 in macrophages aggravates high fat diet-induced steatosis and insulin resistance of liver in mice*

**Mentor:** Won-Il Jeong, DVM, PhD

*AASLD Foundation acknowledges funding for the 2016 International Young Investigator Travel Award Presented in honor of the Korean Association for the Study of the Liver (KASL) is made possible by a donation to AASLD Foundation in honor of KASL.*

### Liver Transplant and/or Hepatobiliary Surgery Fellow Awards

These \$1,000 travel awards enable liver transplant and/or hepatobiliary surgery fellows submitting abstracts for The Liver Meeting® to receive travel support.

**Shingo Shimada, MD, PhD**

*Portal venous flow measured by ultrasound sonography after percutaneous transhepatic portal vein embolization is useful for prediction of hepatic hypertrophy*

**Tiffany CL Wong, FRCS**

*Similar Donor and Recipient Outcomes After Left Lobe and Right Lobe Living Donor Liver Transplantation*

**Mentor:** Prof. Chung Mau Lo, FRCS, MS

*The Liver Transplant and/or Hepatobiliary Surgery Fellow Awards are made possible by AASLD Foundation donors.*

### Mid-level Professional Awards

These \$1,000 awards enable mid-level professionals submitting abstracts for The Liver Meeting® to receive travel support.

**Anna Marie Hefner, PhD, CPNP**

*The Effect of a 12-month Weight Loss Program on Non-alcoholic Fatty Liver Disease in Obese Patients*

**Mentor:** Tarek Hassanein, MD, FACP, FACC, AGAF, FAASLD

**Suzanne Sheppard-Law, BN, MPH**

*Predictors of non-adherence to HBV anti-viral therapy*

*The Mid-Level Professional Awards are made possible by AASLD Foundation donors.*

### Pediatric Research Award

The purpose of this \$1,000 award is to foster excellence in pediatric liver disease research. The award is given to a physician/scientist with a primary appointment affiliation in a department of pediatrics.

**Jeremy Rajanayagam, MD**

*Graft fibrosis after paediatric liver transplantation: 20 years of follow-up*

**Mentor:** Deirdre Kelly, MD, FAASLD

AASLD Foundation acknowledges funding for the 2016 Pediatric Research Award is made possible by a grant from the SunTrust Foundation.

### PSC Partners Seeking a Cure Award for the Most Promising PSC Research

The annual award of \$3,000 is given to the investigator with the most promising PSC research at The Liver Meeting®.

**Emina Halilbasic, MD**

*norUrsodeoxycholic acid (norUDCA) improves cholestasis in primary sclerosing cholangitis (PSC) independent of ursodeoxycholic acid (UDCA) pre-treatment and response*

**Mentor:** Michael Trauner, MD, FAASLD

AASLD Foundation acknowledges funding for the 2016 PSC Partners Seeking a Cure Award from PSC Partners Award is made possible by a donation from PSC Partners.

### Resident Research Award

The purpose of this \$1,000 award is to recognize high quality research undertaken by a resident in training.

**Jasmine Rassiwalla, MD, MPH**

*Are There Upper Limits in Tumor Burden for Successful Down-staging of Hepatocellular Carcinoma to Liver Transplant? Analysis of the "All-comers" Down-staging Protocol*

**Mentor:** Francis Yao, MD & Neil Mehta, MD

The Resident Research Award is made possible by AASLD Foundation donors.

### Student Research Award

This \$1,000 award is given to a student who is the primary contributor to the research study in the abstract submitted to The Liver Meeting®.

**Robert Plummer**

*Functional Genomic Study Reveals GPR125 as a Novel Regulator for Hepatocyte Lipotoxicity*

**Mentor:** Yi Guo, PhD & Ying Peng, PhD

AASLD Foundation acknowledges funding for the 2016 Student Research Award is made possible by a grant from the SunTrust Foundation.

## Young Investigator Travel Awards

These \$1,000 awards enable young researchers submitting abstracts to The Liver Meeting® to receive travel support.

### **Eliza W. Beal, MD**

*Outcomes of Liver Transplantation in Wilson Disease: The United States Experience*

**Mentor:** Khalid Mumtaz, MD, FCPS

### **Therese Bitterman, MD**

*When imaging and explant pathology conflict: defining the risk of false-positive hepatocellular carcinoma in recipients transplanted with T2 MELD exceptions*

**Mentor:** David S. Goldberg, MD, MSCE

### **Vladimir Cousin**

*Portal infiltrate is associated with histological subtype and donor-specific antibody profile in protocol liver biopsies following pediatric liver transplantation*

### **Noelle Ebel, MD**

*Waitlist and post-transplantation outcomes in liver transplant registrants and recipients ages 18-24 years old: analysis of the UNOS database*

**Mentor:** George Ioannou, MD, FAASLD, Simon Horslen, MD, ChB, & Evelyn Hsu, MD

### **Thomas Fabre, MSc**

*Intrahepatic IL-22 correlates with advanced liver fibrosis and sensitizes HSCs to TGF-β signaling in a p38-dependent manner*

**Mentor:** Shoukry Naglaa, PhD

### **Jorn C. Goet, MD, PhD candidate**

*The GLOBE score identifies PBC patients at increased risk of liver transplantation or death during follow-up*

**Mentor:** Henk R. van Buuren, MD, PhD & Bettina E. Hansen, PhD, MSc

### **Maren H. Harms, MD, PhD candidate**

*Comparable Beneficial Effects of Beza- and Fenofibrate in Primary Biliary Cholangitis. An International Study in UDCA-treated individuals.*

**Mentor:** Henk R. van Buuren, MD, PhD & Bettina E. Hansen, PhD, MSc

### **Chetan Ramesh Kalal, MD, DM**

*Effect of long term aggressive nutritional therapy on survival in patients with alcoholic liver cirrhosis- Interim analysis of a randomized controlled trial*

### **Alyssa Kriegermeier, MD**

*Biliatresone, a toxic model of biliary atresia in animals, causes reversible damage to extrahepatic bile ducts and peribiliary glands, and its toxicity is mitigated equivalently by adult and neonatal hepatocytes*

**Mentor:** Rebecca Wells, MD

### **Chatmanee Lertudomphonwanit, MD**

*High-throughput Proteomics Identifies MMP7 as a Biomarker of Biliary Atresia*

**Mentor:** Jorge Bezerra, MD, FAASLD

### **Zhuan Li, PhD**

*FOXO3-dependent, M1-selective hepatic macrophage apoptosis is a normal mechanism that allows the liver to tolerate alcohol with minimal or no inflammation*

**Mentor:** Steven A. Weinman, MD, PhD, FAASLD

### **Yuanyuan Li, PhD**

*Carboxylesterase 2 Prevents Liver Steatosis by Modulating Lipolysis, Endoplasmic Reticulum Stress, and Lipogenesis and Is Regulated by Hepatocyte Nuclear Factor 4 Alpha in Mice*

**Mentor:** Yangjiao Zhang, MD

### **Po-Hong Liu, MD**

*ALBI and PALBI Grade Predict Survival for HCC across Treatment Modalities and BCLC Stages in the MELD Era*

**Mentor:** Teh-la Huo, MD

### **Chune Liu, MD, PhD**

*An lncRNA H19/PTBP1 metabolic circuit to control SREBP1 protein stability and hepatic lipogenesis*

**Mentor:** Li Wang, PhD

### **Jessica L. Maiers, PhD**

*TANGO1 mediates fibrogenesis in vivo and is regulated by the UPR*

**Mentor:** Vijay H. Shah, MD

### **Basile Njei, MD, MPH**

*Genome-Wide Association Study (GWAS) for Chronic Hepatitis C-Related Hepatocellular Carcinoma (HCC)*

**Mentor:** Tamar Taddei, MD, & Andrew Dewan, MPH, PhD

### **Cyriac Abby Philips, MD, DM**

*Fecal microbiota transplantation (FMT) improves outcome and survival in steroid ineligible severe alcoholic hepatitis-A randomized control trial (NCT 02458079)*

**Mentor:** Prof. Shiv Kumar Sarin, MD, FAASLD

### **Na Shang, PhD**

*FAK deletion accelerates liver regeneration after two-thirds partial hepatectomy*

**Mentor:** Wei Qiu, PhD

### **Silvia Vilarinho, MD, PhD\***

*Individual Exome Analysis in Diagnosis and Management of Idiopathic Adult Liver Disease*

**Mentor:** Pramod K. Mistry, MD, PhD

AASLD Foundation acknowledges funding for many of the 2016 Young Investigator Travel Awards is made possible by an independent grant from Merck.

\*Dr. Vilarinho is also the recipient of the 2015 Sheila Sherlock Clinical and Translational Research Award.

## Memorial Travel Award Program

The AASLD Foundation Memorial Travel Award program was created to allow individuals to be honored by naming travel awards after them. Funding for these awards comes from donations in support of the award.

### The Paul Angulo Travel Award for Best Abstract in Clinical NAFLD

Dr. Angulo was an exceptional clinical researcher who earned international prestige for his work on autoimmune and fatty liver disease. The goal of the award is to encourage clinical research in non-alcoholic fatty liver disease. The award will be given to either a fellow or a junior faculty (within three years of their first faculty position) submitting the most promising abstract in clinical research related to NAFLD to The Liver Meeting®.



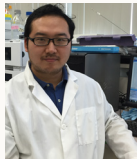
#### **Jonathan G. Stine, MD, MSc, FACP\***

*The weighted effect of non-alcoholic steatohepatitis on hepatocellular carcinoma risk: A meta-analysis*

**Mentor:** Curtis Argo, MD, MSc

### The Sherrie H. Cathcart Travel Award

This award is named in honor of Sherrie H. Cathcart for her many years of dedicated service as the Executive Director of the American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases. The goal of this award is to inspire young investigators to present their research at The Liver Meeting®.



#### **Runping Liu, PhD**

*CHOP deficiency protects against bile duct ligation-induced cholestatic liver injury by reduction of intestinal barrier dysfunction and inflammatory response*

**Mentor:** Huiping Zhou, PhD

### Professor Margit Hamosh Travel Award

This award honors the life and legacy of Dr. Hamosh, a holocaust survivor and distinguished pediatrics professor at Georgetown University. This award is presented to a fellow or junior investigator who submits the most outstanding abstract on hepatocellular carcinoma research for The Liver Meeting®.



#### **Friedrich Foerster, MD**

*An in silico analysis of the immunome of hepatocellular carcinoma reveals a prognostic immune gene signature*

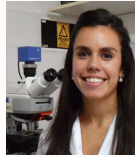
**Mentor:** Detlef Schuppan, MD, PhD

\*Dr. Stine is also the recipient of a 2016 Advanced/Transplant Hepatology Fellowship.

## Memorial Travel Award Program *(continued)*

### The Maribel Rodríguez-Torres Travel Award

**D**r. Rodríguez -Torres was a renowned researcher and treater of HCV. She treated her patients with the utmost respect and care, and never gave up fighting for a cure for Hepatitis C. A pioneer for the latest treatments for HIV-HCV patients, Maribel dedicated her entire life to her work. The goal of this memorial award is to encourage young investigators residing in Latin America or Spain in the area of Hepatitis C.



**Daniela Alejandra Rios, PhD candidate**

*Intrahepatic Th17/Treg interplay related to fibrosis in Chronic Hepatitis C*

### The Leonard B. Seeff Award for Outstanding Research by a Young Investigator

**T**his award is named in recognition of Dr. Leonard B. Seeff's legacy as a leader in the field of hepatology, his commitment to training future leaders, and his many contributions to both hepatology and AASLD over the past half century. The goal of this award is to inspire young investigators to present their research at The Liver Meeting®.



**Yoon Seok Roh, DVM, PhD**

*Ubiquitin conjugating enzyme Ubc13 negatively regulates the development non-alcoholic fatty liver disease through induction of mitophagy*

**Mentor:** Ekihiro Seki, MD, PhD

*AASLD Foundation gratefully acknowledges the donors whose gifts support funding for the 2016 Memorial Travel Awards.*



*Thank You for your time and commitment*

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**AASLD Foundation recognizes the contributions  
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Donors below have given generous gifts of \$500 or more during the calendar year 2016. Please visit [aasldfnd.org](http://aasldfnd.org) for a complete listing of donors.

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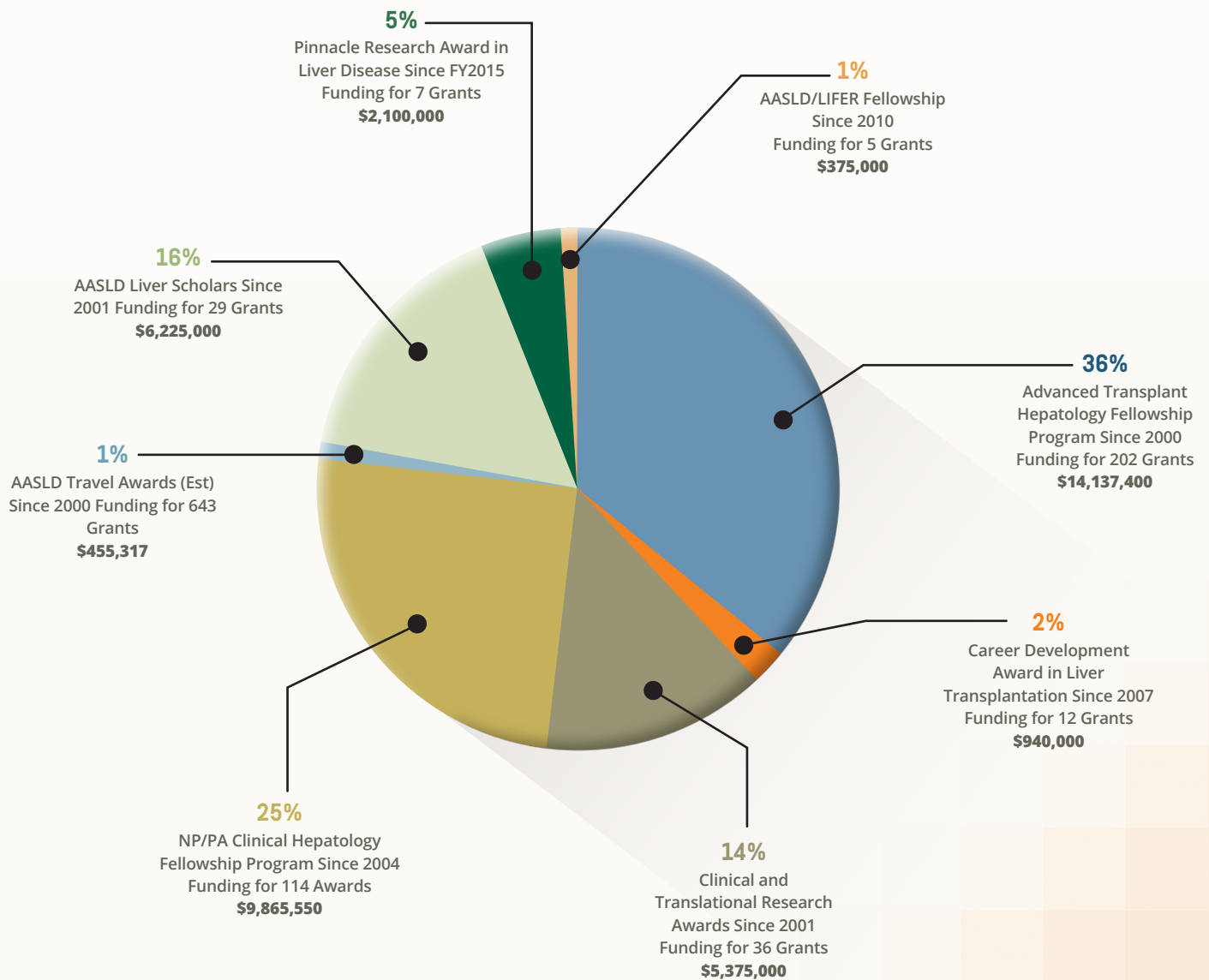
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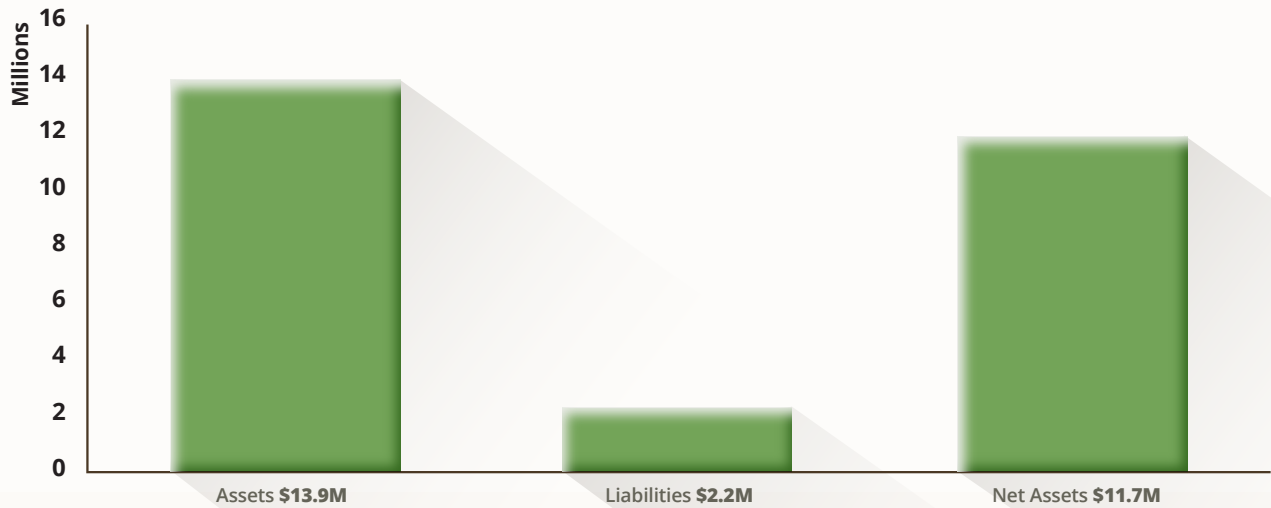
### AASLD and AASLD Foundation Awards Funding, 2000 through 2016

1,048 Awards Totaling \$39,473,267



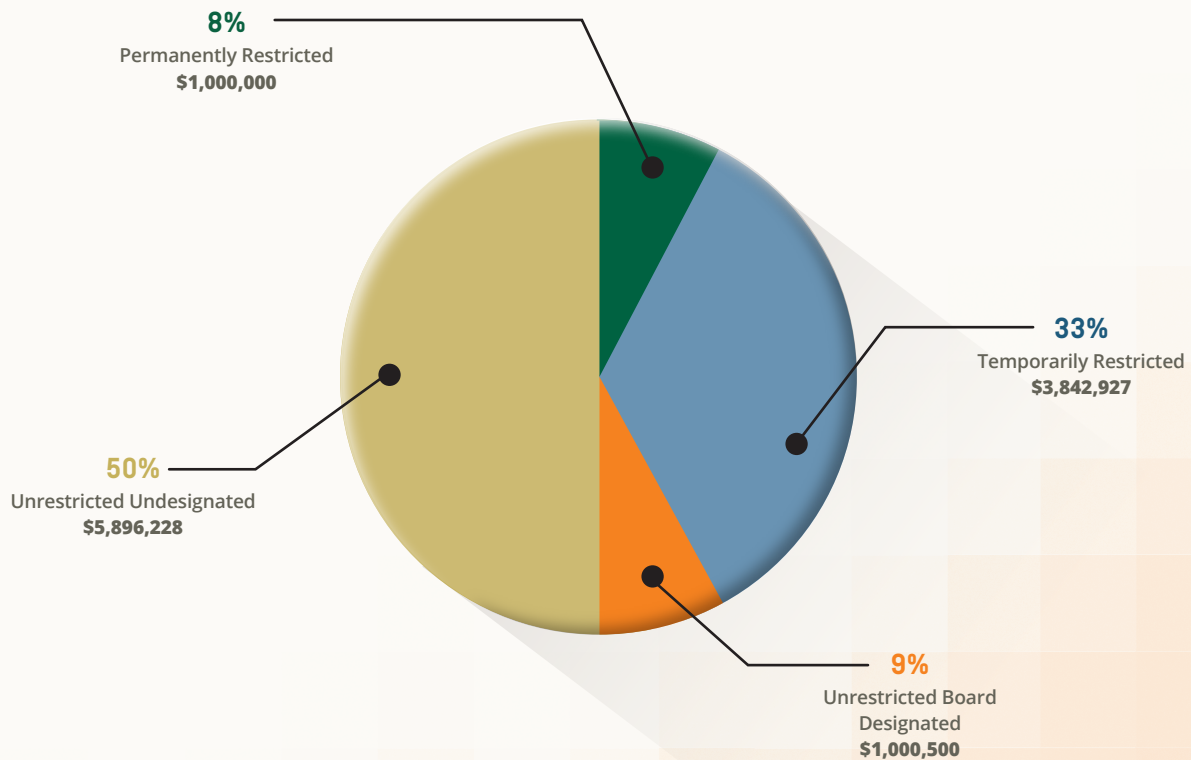
## FY2016 FINANCIALS

### FY2016 Foundation Financial Position



### FY2016 Foundation Net Assets

\$11,739,655



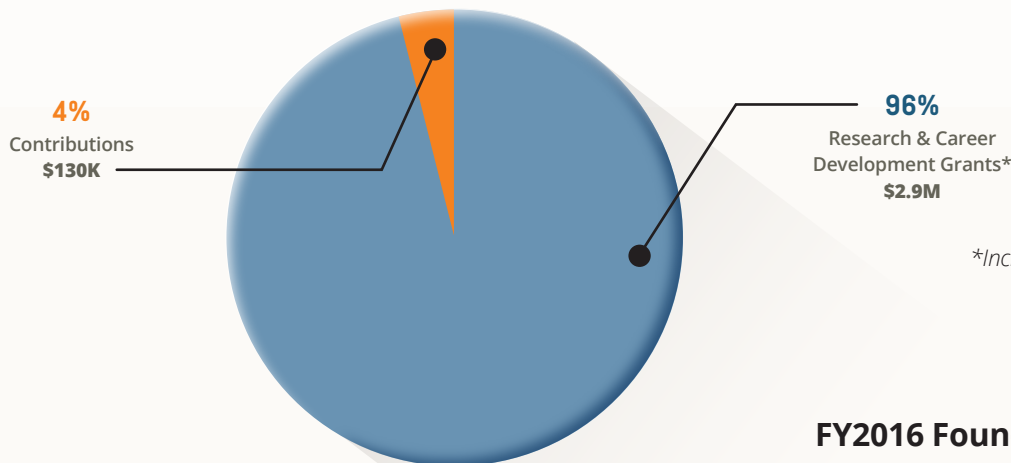
## FY2016 FINANCIALS

### FY2016 Foundation Revenue & Expenses

|                       |    |             |
|-----------------------|----|-------------|
| Revenue               | \$ | 2,995,441   |
| Loss from Investments | \$ | (14,634)    |
| Expenses              | \$ | (3,491,356) |
| Surplus/(Loss)        | \$ | (510,549)   |

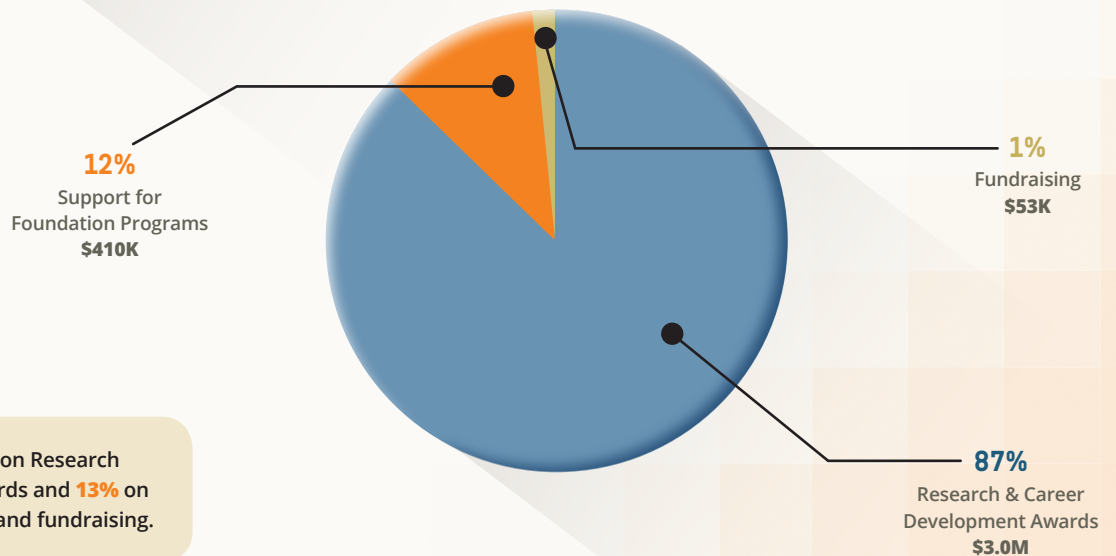
For full financial statements refer to [aasldfnd.org](http://aasldfnd.org)

### FY2016 Foundation Revenue

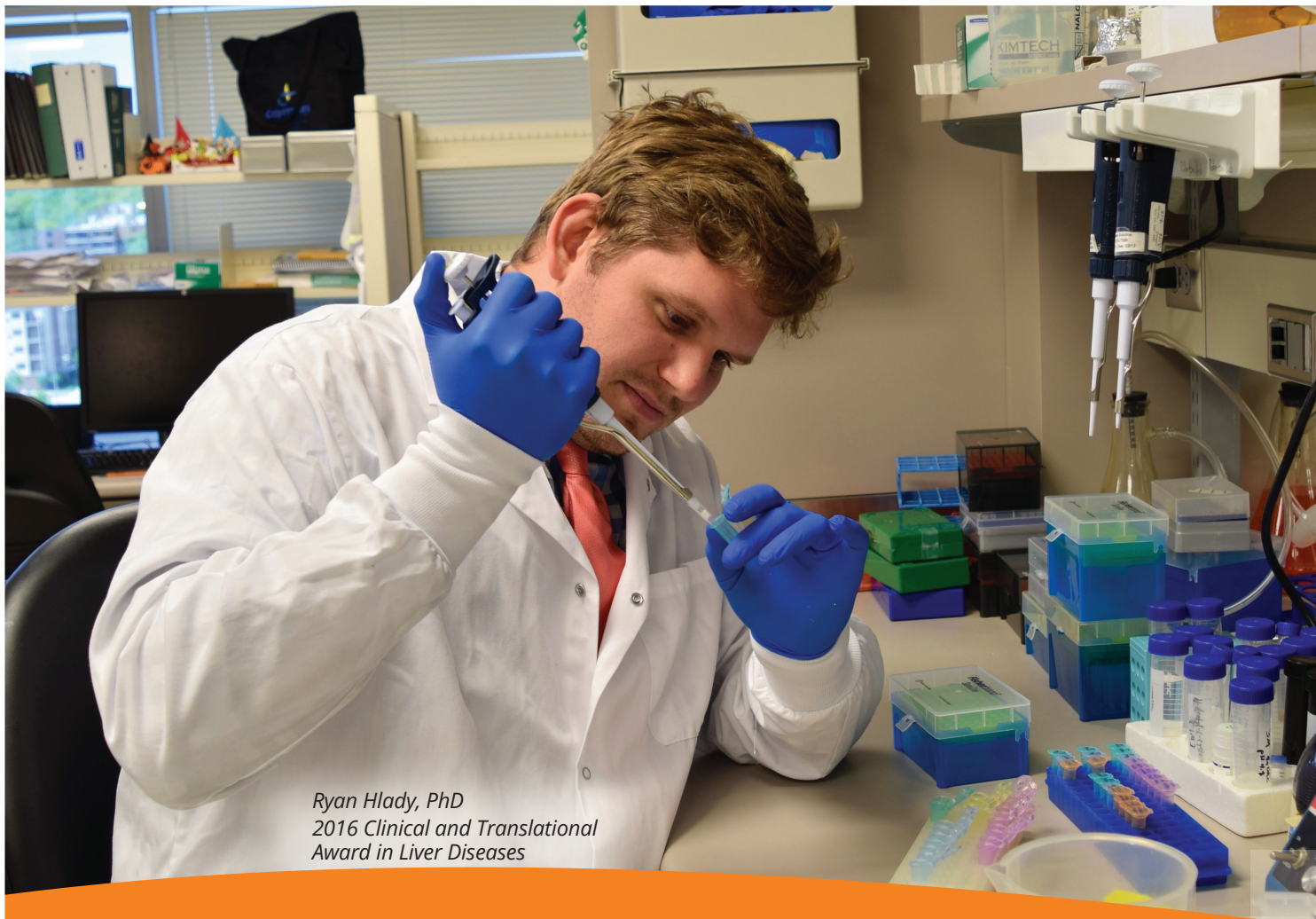


\*Includes \$1M funding commitment from AASLD.

### FY2016 Foundation Expenses



AASLD Foundation spent **87%** on Research and Career Development Awards and **13%** on Foundation program support and fundraising.



*Ryan Hlady, PhD  
2016 Clinical and Translational  
Award in Liver Diseases*

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