

RESEARCH COALITION

2011

NEW INVESTIGATOR AWARD

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OBJECTIVE

The objective of the New Investigator Fellow Award, supported by The Center for Health Design (CHD) Research Coalition, is to recognize emerging leaders in the field of healthcare facility design research. The award is open to graduate students, and other recent research degree recipients with demonstrated potential to conduct and disseminate research that examines the role of environmental design that supports therapeutic, safe, efficient, and effective healthcare settings. The goal of the award is to support new researchers whose future careers are likely to contribute to the continued development of the field of evidence-based design (EBD). All applications will undergo a thorough peer-review process, conducted by The Center for Health Design's Research Coalition.

AREAS OF FOCUS

The award seeks to support researchers in the early phases of their careers whose research addresses:

- Increased patient safety through environmental design;
- Increased patient satisfaction and quality of care through environmental design; and,
- Increased worker safety and effectiveness through environmental design.

AWARD

The Center for Health Design will award \$3,000 to the individual receiving the first place award. This award recipient will receive free registration to attend Healthcare Design 2012 to present his/her findings. Two honorable mention awards of \$1,000 each will also be given. Awardees will be designated as New Investigator Fellows, and be provided a senior researcher mentor for one year. One member of the fellows group will be selected to be a representative on the CHD Research Coalition.

Each recipient will be required to produce an 8-10 page summary of their recently completed (or in-progress) research project within 9 months of receiving the Fellowship. This document will be posted on the CHD website. In addition, it is expected that the topic of each candidate's current research study will generate a paper to be submitted for first review to a peer-reviewed journal (acknowledging the support of The Center for Health Design).

RESEARCH COALITION BACKGROUND

Hospitals and healthcare facilities occupy a unique place in our sensibilities. For some they are safe havens, for others they are the locus of dynamic civic and financial activity, and yet are stressful places, which often provide fragmented and unsafe care. These mixed messages have created a need for a greater understanding of the relationship between the physical environment and patient, staff, and resource outcomes.

The Research Coalition is comprised of experienced researchers, design practitioners, clinicians, and healthcare administrators. The Research Coalition develops the requests for proposals, selects appropriate teams to conduct research, and monitors the progress of research studies while mentoring the research team.

ELIGIBILITY

Investigators from research and academic institutions, and professional practice are encouraged to apply. Applicants should either currently be students who are affiliated with an academic program or have graduated from such a program after August 2008.

EVALUATION CRITERIA

The evaluation will be based on:

- Relevance of current research project to the objectives of evidence-based design
- Researcher's demonstrated ability to conduct research, and their academic and professional accomplishments
- Ability of the researcher to effectively communicate findings in a clear and digestible way.
- Candidate's research dissemination history (presentations and publications)
- Two letters of support regarding the candidate's research qualifications and accomplishments

The award decisions will be made at the discretion of The Center for Health Design on the advice of the Research Coalition. Abstracts of winning proposals will be made available on The Center for Health Design's web site; all others will remain confidential.

APPLICATION SCHEDULE

August 1, 2011	Awards Program Announced
September 15, 2011	Submission Deadline Send Application to Carolyn Quist (cquist@healthdesign.org) by 5pm ET
October 15, 2011	Award Recipients Announced
November, 2012	Recipient of first place award (\$3,000) Presents Findings at Health Design 2012

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

- Cover page with name, university/organization, postal address, email address, phone number
- CV (6 page maximum)
- Description of current research project (3 page maximum, excluding references) including:
 - Title
 - Research participants (if any, in addition to candidate)
 - Brief literature review
 - Hypotheses or research questions
 - Methods
 - Results (if known)
 - Discussion and conclusion (if known)
 - References
- Summary of healthcare design-related research accomplishments (2 page maximum)
- Recent academic transcript
- Two letters of recommendation addressing the candidate's research qualifications and accomplishments

Please direct questions to:

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ABOUT THE CENTER FOR HEALTH DESIGN

The Center for Health Design (CHD), formed in 1993, is a nonprofit research and advocacy organization of forward-thinking healthcare, elder care, design, and construction professionals and product manufacturers who are leading the quest to improve the quality of healthcare facilities and create new environments for healthy aging.

CHD currently has over 70 Pebble Partners, whose collective aim is to create a collaborative community in healthcare by bringing together research and documented examples of healthcare facilities whose design has made a difference in the quality of care and financial performance of these institutions. CHD's affiliates, which include a group of over 300 healthcare and design professionals, are united in the goal of improving the quality of healthcare and staff work environments.

Learn more about CHD's vision of building innovations through a healthier, safer world at www.healthdesign.org.

LEGAL NOTICE

The Center for Health Design ("CHD") encourages the submittal of proposals for review and consideration by The Research Coalition. Award decisions will be made at the discretion of CHD on the advice of the Research Coalition. Each applicant selected will be required to sign a written agreement acceptable to CHD in its sole discretion. Responses to CHD Request for Proposals are not a contract between the candidates and CHD.