



NEW INVESTIGATOR RESEARCH AWARD

The objective of the New Investigator Research Award, supported by The Center for Health Design Research Coalition, is to support high quality research studies by new investigators in the field of evidence-based healthcare facility design. The award is open to Ph.D. students, and other recent research degree recipients whose early contributions reflect their potential to create, promote, and disseminate research that supports therapeutic, safe, efficient, and effective healthcare settings. The goal of the award is to support new researchers whose research is likely to fill critical gaps in the field of evidence-based design (EBD).

All applications will undergo a thorough peer-review process, conducted by the Research Coalition.

AREAS OF FOCUS

This request for proposals seeks to fund studies in the following areas:

1. *Increased patient and senior resident safety through environmental design:* Studies submitted in this category will examine the relationship between the design of the built environment and safety outcomes such as healthcare acquired infections, falls, medical errors, handwashing, patient injury and so on. Safety outcomes as they apply to patients in inpatient or other healthcare settings as well as safety of senior residents in long term care facilities are of interest to CHD.
2. *Increased patient and senior resident satisfaction and quality of care through environmental design:* Studies submitted in this category will examine how different aspects of the healthcare built environment impact outcomes such as satisfaction, stress and anxiety among patients in healthcare facilities and senior residents in long term care environments. Studies focused on a range of quality of care outcomes including length of stay, use of pain medications, waiting times, and readmission rates will also be relevant in this category.
3. *Increased care provider safety and effectiveness through environmental design:* Studies submitted in this category will primarily focus on how the design of the built environment supports safety, efficiency and effectiveness of care providers in different healthcare settings.
4. *Development of innovative tools, techniques and approaches to support healthcare design research and practice:* Studies submitted in this category will focus on development of innovative tools and techniques to support research (e.g. measurement of environmental variables) or healthcare design practice (e.g. using simulation techniques during the design process). Also, studies that explore innovative approaches to healthcare facility design and delivery will also be relevant in this category.

Studies conducted in any setting (e.g. acute care, ambulatory care, senior living, etc.) where healthcare is provided will be considered for this award.

AWARDS

The Center for Health Design will present one award of \$10,000 to a researcher in the early phases of their career. The award recipient will receive free registration to attend Health Design Conference where they will have the opportunity to present their completed study. The award recipient will be designated a member of CHD's Research Coalition for one year.

BACKGROUND ABOUT THE RESEARCH COALITION

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.

EVIDENCE-BASED DESIGN OVERVIEW AND SUMMARY

Evidence based design (EBD) or 'the process of basing decisions about the built environment on credible research to achieve the best possible outcomes' provides a framework for linking facility design decisions with key patient, staff and organizational outcomes in healthcare settings.

While the body of evidence available for supporting design decisions has grown over the last decade, there is still a paucity of research in many key areas. As a result, healthcare practitioners and designers engaged in the design of new facilities or renovating existing facilities struggle to find sufficient evidence to support key facility investment decisions. There is a need for timely and relevant research studies that clearly show how different aspects of the built environment impact patient safety, worker safety and effectiveness as well as patient satisfaction and quality of the care in healthcare settings. The New Investigator Award is intended to support the continued development of quality EBD research.

ELIGIBILITY

Investigators from research and academic institutions, and professional practice, are encouraged to apply. Applicants should either currently be a Ph.D. candidate or someone who has graduated with a research degree within the past three years (2009) and is currently engaged in conducting research in practice or in academia.

Ph.D. candidates may submit their Ph.D. thesis projects for consideration provided it has already been presented to and approved by their thesis committees. Thesis concepts or unapproved proposals will not be reviewed. For applicants submitting their Ph.D. thesis projects we suggest that their studies are in early phases (e.g. data collection) rather than final stages of completion (data analysis, writing up). All applicants should submit a fully developed research proposal (see components, below) of not more than twelve pages.

EVALUATION CRITERIA

The submissions will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- Relevance to priority issue areas identified above;
- Strength and quality of research proposal;
- Feasibility of successfully implementing proposed project.
- Applicant's research abilities/qualifications

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

- Approval of thesis proposal from thesis committee (for Ph.D. students)
- Communications plan for publication in peer-reviewed journals.
- Two letters of support regarding the candidate's qualifications and accomplishments
- Letters of commitment (agreement to serve as a research site, make personnel and data available, etc.) from proposed research site(s).

The award decisions will be made at the discretion of The Center for Health Design on the advice of the Research Coalition. Additionally, reviewers are required to respect the confidentiality of the information provided in the proposals.

APPLICATION PROCESS AND SCHEDULE

Nov 3, 2012	Awards Program Announced
January 15, 2013	Submission Deadline Send your proposal via email to Shannon Roecklein @ sroecklein@healthdesign.org
March1, 2013	Award Recipient Announced

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Component and Length	Purpose
Abstract, maximum one page	Describe objectives, methods and relationship to the chosen issue topic.
Proposal Description, maximum of seven pages	<p><i>Introduction</i> (short overview)</p> <p><i>Objectives</i> (list goals). Ensure the following components are in alignment with your objectives:</p> <p><i>Research Need:</i> Explain why the healthcare design industry needs this research. What is unique about this project, how does it relate to current and future research efforts and are there any applications to the other issue topics listed above?</p> <p><i>Research Methodology:</i> Explain methods and instrument selection. List what you will measure and any controls. Explain how you will verify data collected from other organizations, if applicable. How you will complete the work within one to two years.</p> <p><i>Research Activities:</i> Describe the research activities/tasks that are necessary to meet project objectives. How will this project be organized?</p> <p><i>Locus of research:</i> Describe the setting(s) where the study will be conducted. Also indicate if approval has been obtained from study site(s).</p> <p><i>Outcomes:</i> Describe how the project will impact healthcare building design practices and the EBD process. List the expected outcomes and the proposed baseline. How likely is it that the results will be easily and rapidly translated to design?</p>
Tasks, maximum of one page	Briefly list the project tasks, timeline and milestones in a timeline.
Budget Narrative, maximum of one page	Complete the budget template (attached in the appendix). Reference a budget narrative to explain major categories of spending (e.g. personnel, equipment, travel etc). Also describe any additional funding contributions if relevant.
Qualifications, one page summary	Include a summary of the applicant's skills as relevant to this project. Include Curriculum Vitae in an appendix and reference as needed. Explain why you are best suited for this work.
Human Subjects, maximum 100 words	Does your study involve human subjects? If your study involves human subjects please indicate if you have received approval from the Institutional Review Board (IRB). Please provide approval letter as an appendix. If you have not yet submitted to the IRB, please indicate timeline for receiving approval. Study funds will be released once IRB approval is received.
Communications, maximum one page	Explain how your project team will disseminate the findings from your study (conferences, journals, etc).

<p>Appendices, as needed (not included in the 12 page word count)</p>	<p>Include CVs and Contact Information, two references, signed commitment letters from organizations where you may be conducting your research study. For Ph.D. candidates, one letter of reference should be provided by your thesis advisor. This letter should confirm that your study has been approved by your committee. For all applicants, we recommend that you seek letters of recommendation from individuals who are well acquainted with your skills and capabilities as a researcher.</p>
---	---

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Research Coalition members, CHD staff, and consultants are not eligible to serve as principal investigators. In addition, they may not participate in the review of proposals that are submitted by his or her colleagues or if he or she is asked to serve in a consultancy capacity.

All proposals must adhere to the application process of the RFP. All research results will be broadly disseminated and therefore are required to be non-proprietary. Only one proposal per applicant is eligible for the award.

RESEARCH COALITION MEMBERS

Frank Weinberg (Co-Chair emeritus)
Corporate Vice President, Facilities, MedStar Health

Franklin Becker, PhD (Co-chair)
Professor and Chair, College of Human Ecology Cornell University

Paul Barach, MD, MPH
Professor of Patient Safety Utrecht University Medical Center, Utrecht, Netherlands Associate Professor, University of South Florida

Sheila Bosch, PhD, LEED AP
Director of Research, Gresham, Smith and Partners

Roger Call, AIA, ACHA, LEED AP
Director – Healthcare, Architecture & Design Herman Miller for Healthcare, Inc.

Anjali Joseph, PhD, EDAC
Director of Research The Center for Health Design

Guy Kiyokawa, MA, MHA
Assistant Chief of Staff for Facilities at US Army Medical Command

Roger Leib, AIA, ACHA
President Leib & Leib, Inc.

Debra J. Levin, MA, EDAC
President and CEO The Center for Health Design

Eileen B. Malone, RN, MSN, MS, EDAC
Senior Partner Mercury Healthcare Consulting, LLC

Jim Lussier, MBA
Found and President, The Lussier Center/TLC

Eileen Malone, RN, MSN, MS, EDAC
Senior Partner, Mercury Healthcare Consulting, LLC

Joseph Martere
LEED Green Associate, National Sales Vice President, Healthcare, Tandus Flooring

Terri Meyerhoeffer
National Sales Director, Tandus Flooring

Debajyoti Pati, PhD, FIIA, LEED AP
Vice President and Director of Research HKS, Inc.

Mark Patterson, AIA, LEED AP; AIA AAH Representative
Vice President SmithGroup

Mardelle Shepley, FAIA, ACHA, D.Arch, EDAC
Professor and Director, Center for Health Systems & Design Texas A&M University

Bill Rostenberg, FAIA, FACHA, ACHE, EDAC
Principal, Director of Research, Anshen+Allen, a part of Stantec Architecture

Walter Vernon, JD Law
President, Mazzetti and Associates

Jean Young, ASID, CID, AAHID, EDAC
President, Young + Company, Inc.

Craig Zimring, PhD, EDAC
Professor Georgia Institute of Technology

Please direct questions to:
Shannon Roecklein, Project Manager, 1850 Gateway Boulevard Suite 1083 Concord, CA
94520 925.521.9404 x131 sroecklein@healthdesign.org