

SIMONS FOUNDATION

Simons Investigators in the Mathematical Modeling of Living Systems

DEADLINES

Expressions of Interest (PI Name, Tentative Project Title) by **September 18, 2018** (*required*)

Internal Competition Deadline: September 25, 2018 at 5:00pm

Sponsor deadline for proposals: October 31, 2018

BACKGROUND

Successful candidates for the MMLS Program are outstanding scientists, often with mathematics or theoretical physics backgrounds, now engaged in research based on mathematical modeling in the life sciences. The MMLS Program supports theoretical approaches making important contributions to the life sciences, fostering a scientific culture of theory-experience collaborations similar to that prevailing in physics.

A broad spectrum of research areas within the life sciences will be considered, ranging from cellular-level issues of organization, regulation, signaling and morphogenic dynamics to the properties of organisms and ecology, as well as neuroscience and evolution. However, **preference is given to areas in which modeling approaches are less established.**

In all cases, preference is for work developing deep theoretical ideas relevant to experiments, suggesting new questions and new classes of experiments, introducing important new concepts and explaining data.

Theory must connect with experiment and candidates should articulate their own views about the nature of this connection, rather than accepting conventional wisdom. Theory is more than data analysis.

NOTE: This program explicitly does NOT support translational or specifically human disease-related research. Bioinformatics- and genomics-related proposals are also OUTSIDE THE SCOPE of this program.)

FUNDING

- **Awards provide flexible support of \$100,000 (direct costs) per year for 5 years.**
- \$10,000 (direct costs) is awarded to the investigator's department to be used at the discretion of the department chair. An additional 20% per year is provided for indirect costs.
(Total: \$660,000)

NOMINATION LIMITATION

Yale University may nominate two (2) candidates.

ELIGIBILITY

- Candidates must be engaged in research related to this program.
- Candidates must have a primary appointment as a Yale faculty member, tenured or non-tenured..
 - A primary appointment is generally defined by the Foundation as one where an investigator is a full-time employee with a teaching load that is comparable to that of other faculty members in the same department.
- As of August 1, 2019, candidates must be within ten (10) years of the start of their first faculty appointment.

Expressions of Interest and Internal Applications should be emailed to:

melanie.smith@yale.edu with cc to: osp@yale.edu

STEP ONE:

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (PI Name, Tentative Project Title) **by SEPTEMBER 18, 2018** (*required*)

STEP TWO:

INTERNAL COMPETITION:

Submit the following items as a single PDF on or before SEPTEMBER 25, 2018 at 5:00pm. (*no exceptions*)

Format requirements:

Font, not smaller than 10-point. **Margins**, at least ½ inch in all directions. **Single-spaced.**

1. Complete the Scholar Awards [face page](#) at <https://your.yale.edu/policies-procedures/forms/yale-university-scholar-awards-program-face-page>
2. Nomination letter. (2 pages maximum).
 - To be written by your chair or other senior faculty member familiar with your research and your career trajectory.
 - This letter should explain the distinctive scientific contributions of the candidate, focusing on scientific accomplishments of the past 5 years, including discussion of a few important papers.
3. The nominated candidate's curriculum vitae (CV)
 - including PhD year, institution, advisor, postdoctoral institutions and advisors, and positions held subsequent to receipt of the doctorate, and the candidate's up-to-date publication list.
4. A list of past and current postdoctoral fellows and PhD students supervised or currently under supervision by the candidate.
5. A research statement, up to 2 pages in length, prepared by the candidate, that outlines the candidate's research vision and plans. References and figures may be included on one additional page.

6. The names of four external references. (If you are selected as a nominee, only two are required.)

The letter writers can be the candidate's PhD and postdoc advisors or other scientists familiar with the candidate's recent work and research goals. Letter writers should be able to discuss the candidate's most significant research accomplishments and provide insight into the candidate's research program and likely future scientific trajectory.

For each referee, please include:

- a brief biography of the referee and indicate your relationship to the referee
- list employment history and awards/ honors received (member of National Academy, etc.)

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT:

Melanie.Smith@Yale.edu ▪ Funding Resource Center ▪ Office of Sponsored Projects ▪ Yale University ▪ Phone: 785-4978

Last update: September 9, 2018