

Melanoma

Research Alliance

Team Science Awards

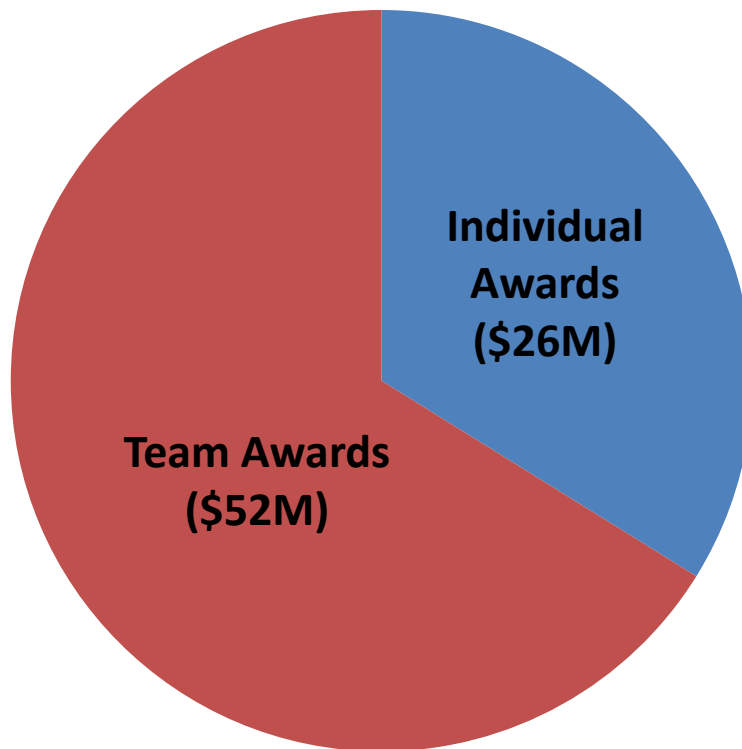
Laura Brockway-Lunardi, PhD

Scientific Program Director

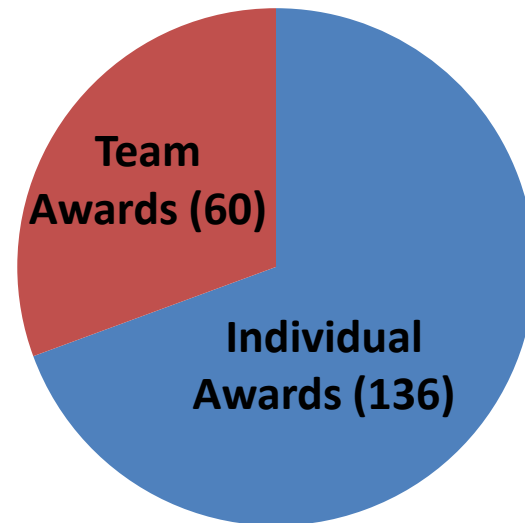
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MRA Portfolio

\$ Commitments



Number of Awards



MRA Team Science Awards

- Multidisciplinary collaboration between **two or more established PIs** plus a **Young Investigator*** with complementary expertise that offers the possibility for **synergistic** advances.
- Typically **\$800,000-\$1 million** total over 3 years
- Periodic “Special Opportunities” with different/more specific requirements

*within 4 years of first faculty appointment

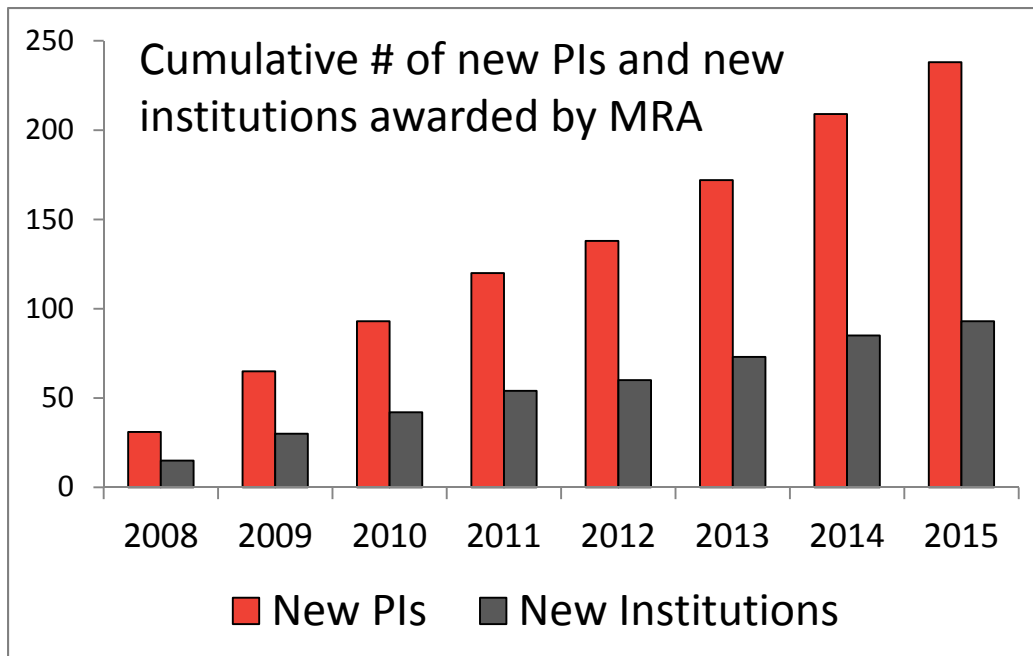
A 2013 Team



L to R: C. Betolotto (INSERM), R. Ballotti (INSERM), M. Soengas (CNIO), S. Proulx (ETH Zurich, Detmar Lab), H. Peinado (CNIO), S. Kobold (LMU Munich, Endres Lab)

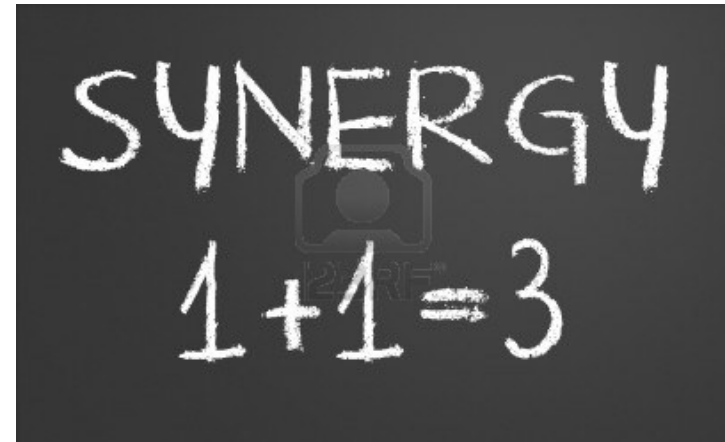
Benefits and Challenges

- Benefits of teams:
 - Collaboration
 - Multidisciplinary science
 - **Build the field**
- Challenges of teams:
 - Financial risk: Large investment over short timeline
 - Administrative
 - Leadership



Synergy v. Additivity

- Performance
 - Quantitative output
 - Follow-on funding
 - Publications
 - **Impact on field**



Matchmaking



- Team composition restricted/specified in RFP
- Post-review matchmaking (“arranged marriage”)

Recommendations

- Demonstrate “**team-ness**” in applications
- 3 year award duration
- 60 day timeframe for sub-awards
- Avoid post-review matchmaking

