# **Approaching the Keck Foundation**

**The Keck Foundation supports outstanding science, engineering, and biological science research that is distinctive and new. Technology development that creates the potential for a significant leap forward in scientific discovery and/or provides a gateway into a completely new area of research is highly encouraged.**

Do not contact Keck directly, but instead go through UCI’s liaison, Roxanne Ford (Roxanne.Ford@uci.edu).

Young faculty are encouraged as PIs or co-PIs.

# **Awards**

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Up to $1,000,000 over 3-4 years; no indirects

# **Deadlines**

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| **June awards** |
| Campus deadline for concept papers: June 2 |
| Counseling with Keck:  July 1 to August 15 |
| Phase I (LOI) deadline:  November 1 |
| Notification of invitation to submit full proposal:  January 15 |
| Full Proposal Deadline  February 15 |

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| **December awards** |
| Campus deadline for concept papers: Jan. 5 |
| Counseling with Keck:  January 1 to February 15 |
| Phase I (LOI) deadline:  May 1 |
| Notification of invitation to submit full proposal:  July 15 |
| Full Proposal Deadline: August 15 |

W. M. Keck Foundation

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| **UC Irvine Foundation Relations** | **11/28/2017** | **UA-FR@exchange.uci.edu** |

**Overview:** Keck focuses on enabling **pioneering discoveries** that overturn prevailing paradigms or promote new solutions to old problems. They encourage development of new technology, but want to know what **new science** it will enable. Competitive LOIs will clearly articulate the specific problem you want to explore and how your approach is unique. Keck does not want projects that reflect the “next logical step” in your research, but rather encourages broad and creative thinking**. If your project would be competitive at NIH or NSF, it is not going to be of interest to the Keck Foundation.**

**Characteristics of Successful Proposal:**

* Broad and creative thinking regarding important and emerging areas of research
* Pioneering discoveries that overturn prevailing paradigms or promote new solutions to old problems
* Development of new technology and the new science it will enable.

# **UC Irvine Awardees**

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**2014**

**Science & Engineering, $2,000,000, Filippo Capolino and Eric Potma**

**2013**

**Science & Engineering, $1,000,000, John Hemminger**

**Medical Research, $1,000,000, Anthony James**

**2012**

**Science & Engineering, $1,000,000, Derek Dunn-Rankin**

**2011**

**Science & Engineering, $1,000,000, Kumar Wickramasinghe**

**2010**

**Medical Research, $1,000,000 Enrico Gratton**

**2001**

**Science & Engineering, $2,000,000, John Southon and Ellen Druffel**

**Not Funded by Keck:** Translational or clinical research; vector and drug development; miniaturization of existing technology; alternative energy and biodiversity studies are generally not considered.

**Submission Process**

* Two opportunities per year to send in one-page white papers for feedback from program staff
* Two requests can be submitted in any given cycle-one each in Science/Engineering and Medical Research
* Process is overseen as a limited submission by the Office of Research. Contents of the concept paper are included below.

# **One-page concept papers**

* **Overview:**  Provide an executive summary written for a well-educated lay audience. Include summary of the goals, any pilot studies or data, unique aspects and significance of the project. **Clearly define what “new science” this project would enable.**
* **Methodology:** briefly describe your approach – “how” not just “what” you will do.
* **Key Personnel:**  Name the key personnel and describe their expertise, role in this project, and any collaborations/partnerships.
* **Budget:**  State total cost of this project, amount requested from the Keck Foundation, and the amount of institutional support if any. Briefly describe how funds requested from Keck will be allocated among capital, personnel and equipment.
* **Justification for WMKF support:**  Explain why support from the Keck Foundation is essential for this project (i.e. this project cannot be, or is not likely to be supported by NIH, NSF or other typical funding agencies).