



IN THE LAB: Recovery Act *Stories*



The historic investment in research through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act is funding promising science that is improving health, while contributing to the economy. View more stories at www.sfn.org/recovery.

TRAINING AND EDUCATION: “UT Austin Center for Learning and Memory Faculty Recruitment Proposal”

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Supported by the National Institute of Mental Health, National Institutes of Health

GRANT DESCRIPTION

This grant is for recruitment of new faculty members into the Center for Learning and Memory. This center was established by the University five years ago as a free-standing research unit within the College of Natural Sciences, and now consists of ten faculty members. The goal of the Center is to assemble a world-class group of scientists dedicated to unraveling the mysteries of learning, memory, and diseases of cognition.

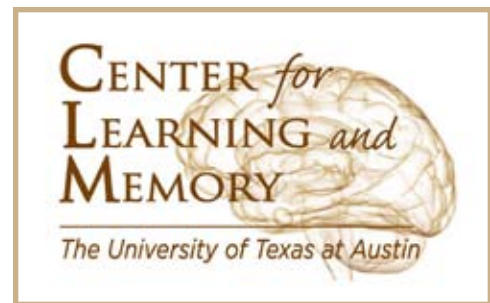
SCIENCE AND HEALTH IMPLICATIONS

Treatments and cures for mental retardation and the cognitive defects associated with Alzheimer's disease, addiction, age-related senility, amnesias, epilepsy, depression, and schizophrenia may emerge from an understanding of the basic biology of learning and memory. The new faculty recruited with the help of this grant will pursue areas of basic research that will lead to a better understanding and better treatment for brain and mental health disorders.

RESEARCH IMPACT: IN THEIR WORDS

“The University has committed tenure-track faculty positions to our center, but with the economic downturn has been unable to provide sufficient startup funds to attract new candidates. This grant will provide the startup funds necessary for us to recruit two new assistant professors. While this grant is for two new faculty positions, there will be a significant multiplier effect because each will hire students, post-docs, and research staff — adding to the job base of the local economy.”

—Daniel Johnston, Primary Investigator



Through ARRA funds, NIH is providing the opportunity for institutions to request supplemental funding to support activities such as the hiring of new faculty for the purpose of promoting job creation, economic development, and accelerating the pace and achievement of scientific research. *Image used with permission of UT-Austin Center for Learning and Memory.*

The Society for Neuroscience (SfN) is the world's largest organization of scientists and physicians devoted to advancing understanding of the brain and nervous system. Since its inception in 1969, the Society has grown from 500 members to more than 40,000.