SWANSON FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

Where bold ventures break through

THE COLUMN GROUP

TCG is a venture ecosystem, cultivating new frontiers of science into successful ventures and unprecedented therapeutic breakthroughs. TCG takes a novel approach to venture capital funding with an edge-to-edge investment model primarily focused on company formation. TCG nurtures scientific innovation, backing ideas that represent creative, innovative leaps forward in medicine and business.

Widely considered to be the father of the biotechnology industry, Robert Swanson changed the world when he founded Genentech with Herbert Boyer in 1976.

Swanson recruited the best scientists and created a unique culture conducive to free-thinking, risk-taking, and productivity. His conviction and enthusiasm for creating new life-saving drugs and his ability to instill that same passion in others made the impossible possible.

TCG's Swanson fellowship program pays homage to Swanson's legacy, empowering the next generation of young visionaries on their quest to better the world through science and medicine.

Robert A. Swanson
1947-1999

- Unique 1-year fellowship focused on new company creation, technical diligence and strategic consulting with one of the industry's top biotech venture capital firms
- Up to 3 Swanson Fellows per class (rolling application)
- Salary and benefits included
- Assigned partner mentor + interactions across TCG team/portfolio
- Deep engagement with TCG's iPartners, comprising top academic investigators and biotech entrepreneurs dedicated to crafting innovative new drug discovery company concepts
- Located in TCG's offices in San Francisco's Presidio

To apply, please submit your CV to swansonfellowship@thecolumngroup.com

NEWCO IDEATION

As a Swanson Fellow, your primary goal will be to identify new areas of therapeutically relevant biology and technology to support the formation of at least one new biotech company during your tenure with us. You will work collaboratively as a member of the TCG team, leveraging your unique technical background and scientific interests to formulate newco concepts. These concepts will be battle-tested, expanded, and re-directed through quarterly scientific roundtables with our iPartner ideation unit and broader investment teams.

OPPORTUNITIES

Working within a top venture capital firm, contributing to the launch of a new drug discovery company, and collaborating with some of the brightest, most creative minds in the research world is an opportunity like no other. Your aptitude, drive, passion and creativity, combined with the unique skills and connections amassed during your time with TCG, will unlock new doors and serve as a catalyst in your career development.

TECHNICAL DILIGENCE AND STRATEGIC CONSULTING

With an active portfolio of nearly two dozen companies and a multitude of new investment opportunities arriving continuously, you will have the opportunity to hone your company evaluation skills and engage in project-based work supporting key strategic decisions in early stage biotechs.

MENTORSHIP

You will be paired with a designated mentor from the TCG partnership who will serve as your guide through the program. This person will be your key point of contact, helping you prioritize your time at TCG, evaluate your opportunities and plan your next steps after the fellowship concludes.

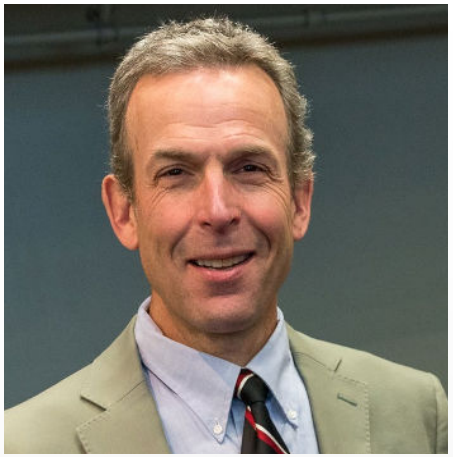
DR. JENNIFER A. DOUDNA

Jennifer Doudna, PhD is a biochemist at the University of California, Berkeley. Her groundbreaking development of CRISPR-Cas9 — a genome engineering technology that allows researchers to edit DNA — with collaborator Emmanuelle Charpentier earned the two the 2020 Nobel Prize in Chemistry and forever changed the course of human and agricultural genomics research. She is also the founder and President of the Innovative Genomics Institute, the Li Ka Shing chancellor's chair in Biomedical and Health Sciences, and a member of the Howard Hughes Medical Institute, Lawrence Berkeley National Lab, Gladstone Institutes, the National Academy of Sciences, and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. She is a leader in the global public debate on the responsible use of CRISPR and has co-founded and serves on the advisory panel of several companies that use the technology in unique ways. Doudna is the co-author of "A Crack in Creation," a personal account of her research and the societal and ethical implications of gene editing.

MICHAEL FISCHBACH

Michael Fischbach is an Associate Professor in the Departments of Bioengineering and Microbiology & Immunology at Stanford University, an Institute Scholar of Stanford ChEM-H, and the director of the Stanford Microbiome Therapies Initiative. Fischbach is a recipient of the NIH Director's Pioneer and New Innovator Awards, an HHMI-Simons Faculty Scholars Award, a Fellowship for Science and Engineering from the David and Lucille Packard Foundation, a Medical Research Award from the W.M. Keck Foundation, and a Burroughs Wellcome Fund Investigators in the Pathogenesis of Infectious Disease award. His laboratory uses a combination of genomics and chemistry to identify and characterize small molecules from microbes, with an emphasis on the human microbiome. Fischbach received his Ph.D. as a John and Fannie Hertz Foundation Fellow in chemistry from Harvard in 2007,where he studied the role of iron acquisition in bacterial pathogenesis and the biosynthesis of antibiotics. After two years as an independent fellow at Massachusetts General Hospital, Fischbach joined the faculty at UCSF, where he founded his lab before moving to Stanford in 2017. Fischbach is a co-founder and director of Federation Bio and Viralogic, a co-founder of Revolution Medicines, and a member of the scientific advisory boards of NGM Biopharmaceuticals and Zymergen.

K. CHRISTOPHER GARCIA



K. Christopher Garcia, Ph.D is a Professor of Molecular and Cellular Physiology, and of Structural Biology at the Stanford University School of Medicine. He received his B.S. in Biochemistry from Tulane University, and his Ph.D in Biophysics from Johns Hopkins University. After two years of post-doctoral work at Genentech, Inc. under Dr. David Goeddel in the Dept. of Molecular Biology, where he learned the emerging technologies of protein engineering and recombinant protein expression, Dr. Garcia moved to a second post-doctoral fellowship at The Scripps Research Institute in the laboratory of Prof. Ian Wilson, where he succeeded in determining the first crystal structures of the T cell receptor and then its complex with peptide-MHC. In 1999, Dr. Garcia started his lab at Stanford University School of Medicine in 1999 where he also became an Investigator of the Howard Hughes Medical Institute. Dr. Garcia was elected to the National Academy of Sciences in 2012, and the National Academy of Medicine in 2016.

Dr. Garcia's interests reside at the cell surface, and his laboratory is investigating structural and functional aspects of cell surface receptor recognition and activation, in receptor-ligand systems with relevance to human health and disease. Structural information on receptor-ligand complexes is used to engineer variant proteins and/or surrogates to manipulate receptor signaling and cellular function, with an eye towards therapeutic applications. The receptor systems studied derive principally from the immune system (TCR/MHC, cytokines, chemokine GPCR), but additionally encompass several systems that are also important in neurobiology (Neurotrophins, Semaphorins) and development (Notch, Wnt). A focus is on "shared" pleiotropic receptors, to understand the biophysical basis by which different ligands are able to elicit unique intracellular responses and functional outcomes, and to exploit this information to engineer receptor-specific ligands Dr. Garcia has founded or co-founded several biotech companies that are attempting to clinically develop technologies from his lab, including ALX Oncology (SIRP/CD7 antagonist), Synthekine (cytokine engineering), Surrozen (Wnt agonists), 3T (TCR antigen discovery), and Mozart (immune modulation by regulatory T cells).

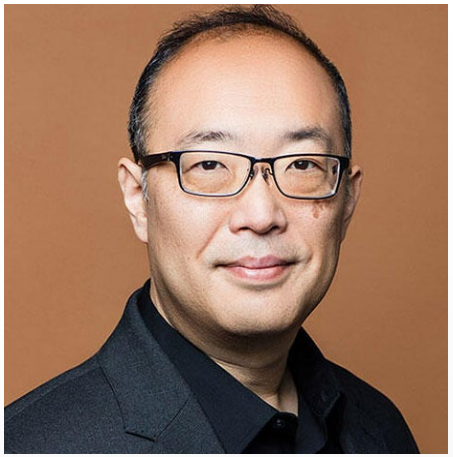
MICHA RAPÉ

Micha Rapé is a pioneer in uncovering molecular mechanisms of cell fate determination, using post translational modification with ubiquitin as his starting point. Micha's work revealed essential ubiquitin signals, substrates and enzymes, as well as mechanisms of ubiquitylation that are essential for human development and disease. Most recently, Micha's lab discovered the reductive stress response as a core regulator of mitochondrial activity and dimerization quality control, the first example of quality control of protein complex composition. His work led to the first prospective development of a molecular glues targeting E3 ligases, which greatly helped open up the ubiquitin system for drug discovery. To advance new ubiquitin-focused approaches in drug discovery, Micha co-founded Nurix Therapeutics with support from The Column Group.

Micha received his PhD at the Max-Planck Institute of Biochemistry, and he performed postdoctoral work in Marc Kirschner's lab at Harvard Medical School. In late 2006, Micha joined the Department of Molecular and Cell Biology at the University of California at Berkeley, where he is currently the Dr. K. Peter Hirth Chair of Cancer Biology and a Professor of Cell and Developmental Biology. Micha is also an Investigator of the Howard Hughes Medical Institute.

His work has been recognized with a Pew Scholar's Award, the NIH Director's New Innovator Award, the Vilcek Prize for Creative Promise honoring the best immigrant into biomedical sciences, and the National Blavatnik Award in Life Sciences.

DAN NOMURA



Dan Nomura is a Professor of Chemical Biology and Molecular Therapeutics in the Department of Chemistry and the Department of Molecular and Cell Biology in the Division of Molecular Therapeutics at the University of California, Berkeley and an Investigator at the Innovative Genomics Institute. He is also the Co-Director of the Molecular Therapeutics Initiative at UC Berkeley. He is an Adjunct Professor in the Department of Pharmaceutical Chemistry at UCSF. Since 2017, he has been the Director of the Novartis-Berkeley Translational Chemical Biology Institute focused on using chemoproteomic platforms to tackle the undruggable proteome.

Dan is Co-Founder of Frontier Medicines, a start-up company focused on using chemoproteomics and machine learning approaches to tackle the undruggable proteome. He is also the Founder of Vicinitas Therapeutics based on his group's discovery of the Deubiquitinase Targeting Chimera (DUBTAC) platform for targeted protein stabilization. He is on the Scientific Advisory Boards for Frontier Medicines, Vicinitas Therapeutics, Photys Therapeutics, Apertor Pharma, Oerth Bio, and Deciphera Pharmaceuticals. Nomura is also on the scientific advisory board of The Mark Foundation for Cancer Research. He is also an Investment Advisory Partner at a16z Bio+Health, an Investment Advisory Board member at Droia Ventures, and an iPartner with The Column Group. He earned his B.A. in Molecular and Cell Biology in 2003 and Ph.D. in Molecular Toxicology in 2008 at UC Berkeley with Professor John Casida and was a postdoctoral fellow at Scripps Research with Professor Benjamin F. Cravatt before returning to Berkeley as a faculty member in 2011. Among his honors include the National Cancer Institute Outstanding Investigator Award, Searle Scholar, and the Mark Foundation for Cancer Research ASPIRE award.

The Nomura Research Group is focused on reimagining druggability using chemoproteomic platforms to develop transformative medicines. One of the greatest challenges that we face in discovering new disease therapies is that most proteins are considered "undruggable," in that most proteins do not possess known binding pockets or "ligandable hotspots" that small molecules can bind to modulate protein function. Our research group addresses this challenge by advancing and applying chemoproteomic platforms to discover and pharmacologically target unique and novel ligandable hotspots for disease therapy.

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CIRCLE PHARMA
judobio
RAPT THERAPEUTICS
kenai therapeutics
IGENICA BIOTHERAPEUTICS
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