BioSpectrum
the business of Bio & Health Sciences
ASIA EDITION

MilliporeSigma awards grants to Biotech companies

June 3, 2019 | News

Three U.S. companies awarded MilliporeSigma's Advance Biotech Grant to advance molecule-to-market efforts



MilliporeSigma, a leading science and technology company has announced the winners of its Advance Biotech Grant program in North America during its Biotech Start-up Summit at the Cambridge Innovation Center. The grant is given to small- and mid-size biotechnology companies that need funding and expertise to get their therapies to market.

“With more than 60 percent of drugs in the pipeline today being developed by biotechs, we are committed to supporting these start-ups in developing groundbreaking therapeutics,” said Udit Batra, CEO, MilliporeSigma. “Our global grant program provides free access to our process development expertise, products and services to help accelerate molecule-to-market efforts.”

The three grant recipients are:

- RAFT Pharmaceuticals (San Diego, California), for its approach to treat chronic pain using a biologic to selectively inhibit neuroinflammation without affecting normal motor or sensory function.
- Rubicon Biotechnology (Anaheim, California), for developing a therapeutic protein, Fv-Hsp72, designed to protect and salvage cells damaged from an acute event, such as traumatic brain injury.
- TechnoVax Inc (Elmsford, New York), for developing a virus-like particle platform that facilitates the development and production of a range of vaccines targeting the prevention of respiratory diseases, hemorrhagic fevers, immunodeficiency and cancers.

Applicants from biotech companies across U.S. and Canada were asked to describe their projects, the medical needs they solve and process development challenges they face to be considered for the grant. In support of the growing biotech ecosystem, grant recipients receive between $40,000 and $100,000 in MilliporeSigma products and process development support.

MilliporeSigma selected the winning submissions based on the scientific and societal merit of therapy in development and process challenges and expertise gaps. The program is part of the company’s global biotech commitment to help bring therapies to market, leveraging decades of process development expertise products, and support at any production scale.

Additionally, MilliporeSigma's BioReliance® End-to-End Services can address key challenges for biotech companies at all stages of molecule development and commercialization in any geography.

MilliporeSigma began the grant program in 2014. The rotating program runs every six months, in Europe, North America or Asia. To date, MilliporeSigma has awarded more than $1.2 million in products and services to 20 biotech companies in these regions. Earlier this year, our grants supported companies in Europe in tackling glioblastoma brain tumors and cardiovascular disease. Biotech companies in Asia with a molecule in development should apply before August 15, 2019 for the next round of grant funding.