12 Brilliant Scientists

Why they came to Georgia • What they brought with them

THE CLASS OF 2015-16
GRA EMINENT SCHOLARS

What the class of 2015-16 GRA Eminent Scholars

$10 million
Private donations to universities to match 12 endowed chairs seeded by GRA

$137 million
Total value of competitive research grants awarded to these Scholars

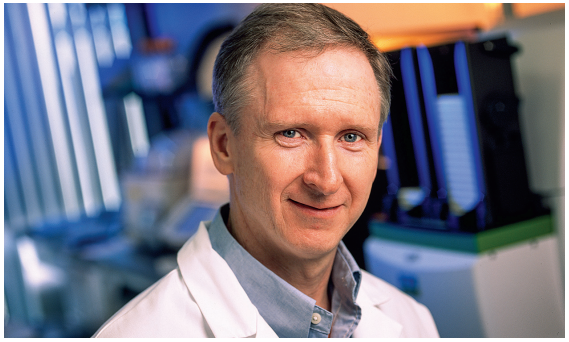
125
Postdocs and researchers already employed in the Scholars' labs

Why I moved my research to Georgia

COLLABORATION

"There is a great commitment at UGA to pursuing research on infectious diseases and developing life-saving vaccines. We have an interactive team of researchers here, and it's an up-and-coming area. I also have the opportunity to collaborate with other vaccine research centers in Georgia and advance joint projects with nearby institutions like Emory."

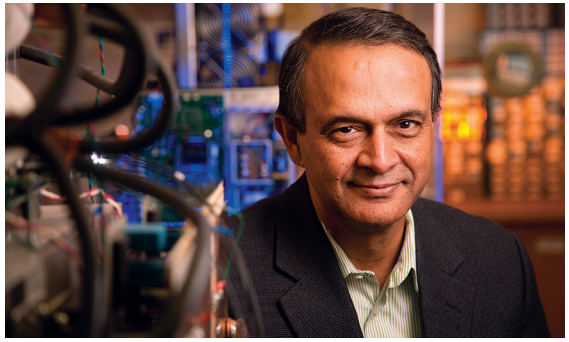
Ted Ross, University of Georgia
Patented technology to design more effective vaccines



EXPERTISE

"Lots of researchers here are experts in inflammatory responses. That's important, because the uncontrolled inflammation caused by Ebola is what makes the virus deadly. There are also a lot of people here who are developing antiviral drugs, which aligns well with the therapeutic aspect of our research."

Chris Basler, Georgia State University
Identified proteins that allow Ebola to "hide"



ENTREPRENEURSHIP

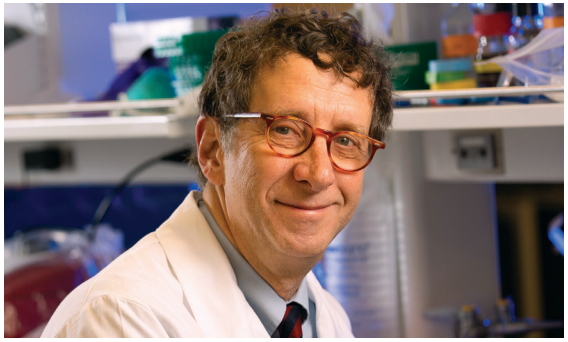
"Georgia offered me an opportunity to bring my academic and entrepreneurial experiences together. The problems we are tackling have global implications and are poised to disrupt the entire energy industry."

Deepak Divan, Georgia Institute of Technology
Invented technology to manage power supply interruptions

bring to Georgia's universities

1,428
Papers published (peer-reviewed!)

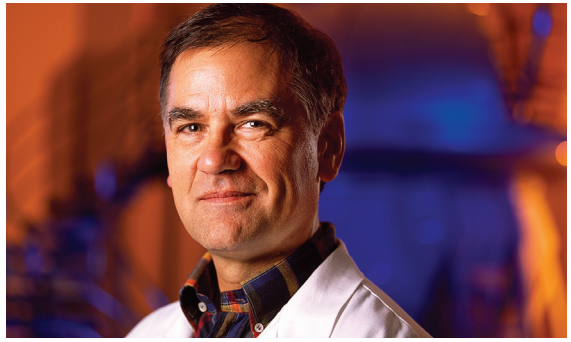
120
Patents and patent applications



REPUTATION

"The environment at Emory is outstanding, and my scientific colleagues are spectacular. Plus, the resources and support from GRA allow us to contribute to the research community in Georgia, as well as nationally and internationally."

Eric Sorscher, Emory University
Renowned researcher in cystic fibrosis



TECHNOLOGY

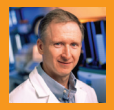
"The Complex Carbohydrate Research Center at UGA is internationally respected, and its NMR facility is world-famous, with some of the best instrumentation around. The Georgia Research Alliance is a very special group and was also a major reason I came to Georgia — there's nothing quite like the GRA in Florida."

Arthur Edison, University of Georgia
Pioneer in the study of metabolites

GRA Eminent Scholars are among the most respected and influential scientists in their fields. Their work is key to Georgia's technology-rich economic development strategy: They bring in hundreds of millions of dollars in federal research funding each year; their labs employ hundreds of other scientists; and their discoveries and inventions often propel the launch of start-up companies.

To recruit these world-class scientists to Georgia, GRA partners with Georgia's research universities and helps fund endowed chairs. As of 2016, Georgia's universities were home to 63 Eminent Scholars and their research laboratories. The Scholars of the Class of 2015-16 were recruited from California, New York, Michigan, Texas, Pennsylvania, Florida, Oklahoma and Alabama.

Inside the labs of the 2015-16 GRA Eminent Scholars



Chris Basler, Ph.D.
Georgia State University

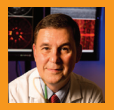
Exploring drug compounds to inhibit the proteins that allow the Ebola virus to evade the immune system

Deepak Divan, Ph.D.
Georgia Institute of Technology

Improving outdated electrical infrastructure at industrial sites

Arthur Edison, Ph.D.
University of Georgia

Identifying new metabolites by analyzing thousands of metabolites found in the worm C. elegans



Stanislav Emelianov, Ph.D.
Georgia Institute of Technology

Applying medical imaging techniques that he developed to diagnose diseases earlier

Robert Haltiwanger, Ph.D.
University of Georgia

Studying how defects in a receptor on the surface of cells (the Notch receptor) can cause diseases like cancer, heart defects and vascular disorders

Ravi Kane, Ph.D.
Georgia Institute of Technology

Refining a nanoscale paint-like coating that kills bacteria on contact, including antibiotic-resistant MRSA

Dennis Kyle, Ph.D.
University of Georgia

Searching for an effective treatment for the brain-eating amoeba Naegleria fowleri

Karen Norris, Ph.D.
University of Georgia

Investigating why the immune systems of elderly people and infants are more vulnerable to respiratory syncytial virus

Ted Ross, Ph.D.
University of Georgia

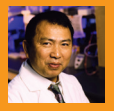
Applying his patented technology, called COBRA, to develop a universal vaccine for influenza

Eric Sorscher, M.D.
Emory University

Working to identify the 1,900 different genetic mutations that can cause cystic fibrosis as well as drug compounds to target them

Shuichi Takayama, Ph.D.
Georgia Institute of Technology

Developing "organ-on-a-chip" devices to test human cells and aid drug development



Ming-Hui Zou, Ph.D.
Georgia State University

Refining a patent-pending drug compound that could treat abdominal aortic aneurysm, an illness with 85 percent mortality