



**Susan G. Komen
Research Grants – Fiscal Year 2014**

This research grant was approved by Komen’s national board of directors for FY2014 Research Programs funding. This grant will be funded upon the execution of grant agreements between Komen and the grantee institutions.

UIC Komen breast cancer disparities fellowship

Investigator(s): Garth Rauscher, Ph.D.

Lead Organization: University of Illinois - Chicago

Grant Mechanism: Graduate Training in Disparities Research Grants **Grant ID:** GTDR14300917

Public Abstract:

The overall goal of the UIC Komen Cancer Epidemiology and Health Disparities Fellowship is to create a cadre of cancer research scientists from diverse ethnic backgrounds, who are able to carry out successful multidisciplinary breast cancer disparities research focused on closing the gap in breast cancer outcomes. UIC Komen fellows will work in an academic and research environment with a strong track record of disparities research, university-community collaboration, and a commitment to training the next generation of breast cancer outcomes researchers dedicated to meeting the needs of higher-risk, underserved populations. Our goal is to provide this fellowship opportunity as a way to recruit the most talented candidates from ethnic minority backgrounds into the field of breast cancer disparities research. We will (1) train students to be highly competent cancer epidemiology researchers in study implementation, statistical analysis and interpretation, and manuscript preparation; (2) provide a multidisciplinary setting and mentorship for students to learn how to successfully collaborate with researchers from other disciplines; and (3) provide opportunities for students to gain experience in how to work collaboratively on research and policy issues pertaining to disparities in breast cancer outcomes. Fellows will obtain rigorous academic training through completion of course requirements for the MS or PhD degree in cancer epidemiology, and the health disparities course sequence. They will participate in a multidisciplinary breast cancer disparities research project under the direction of a qualified mentor. They will share knowledge and experiences and obtain feedback through participation in weekly meetings of Komen fellows and staff; and weekly multidisciplinary meetings in conjunction with UIC National Cancer Institute-funded Cancer Education and Career Development Program. Finally, they will gain expertise in the policy change process through participation in an on-going policy-related community-based project of the Metropolitan Chicago Breast Cancer Task Force. Funding provided by this fellowship will create highly trained, well rounded breast cancer disparities researchers, who are trained not only to implement high quality research but also to ask research questions of greatest relevance to closing racial and ethnic disparities in breast cancer.