Possible Funding for EDI Initiatives

1) Possibilities of funding for underrepresented minority (URM) undergraduate/graduate students working at laboratories at the Moran Eye Center:

-Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Predoctoral Fellowship to Promote Diversity in Health-Related Research (grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-20-251.html): The purpose of this Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award (NRSA) Individual Predoctoral Fellowship to Promote Diversity in Health-Related Research award is to enhance the diversity of the health-related research workforce by supporting the research training of predoctoral students from diverse backgrounds including those from groups that are underrepresented in the biomedical, behavioral, or clinical research workforce.

-Specific for neurology (ninds.nih.gov/Funding/Training-Career-Development/High-School-and-Undergraduate): National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS) supports research opportunities for individual students to work in NINDS-funded labs across the U.S. through the supplement program. NINDS also supports high school and undergraduate research through institutional programs such as the summer research and ENDURE programs, and funds students to work at the NIH campus in Bethesda, Maryland, through the Intramural Research Program.

-Enhancing Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math Educational Diversity (ESTEEMED) Research Education (R25) (grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-20-223.html): The overarching goal of this R25 program is to support educational activities that encourage individuals from diverse backgrounds, including those from groups underrepresented in the biomedical sciences, to pursue further studies or careers in research. With ESTEEMED, National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering (NIBIB) focuses on early preparation for undergraduate students in bioengineering or STEM fields relevant as engineering or the physical/computational sciences, which play key roles in biomedical technologies and innovation.

-Research Supplements to Promote Diversity in Health-Related Research (Admin Supp - Clinical Trial Not Allowed) (grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-20-222.html): The National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention hereby notify Program Director(s)/Principal Investigator(s) (PD(s)/PI(s)) holding specific types of research grants (specific activity codes listed in the site above) that funds are available for administrative supplements to
enhance the diversity of the research workforce by recruiting and supporting students, post-doctorates, and eligible investigators from diverse backgrounds, including those from groups that have been shown to be underrepresented in health-related research. This supplement opportunity is also available to PD(s)/PI(s) of research grants who are or become disabled and need additional support to accommodate their disability in order to continue to work on the research project. Administrative supplements must support work within the scope of the original project. This Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) is designed specifically for applicants proposing research that does not involve leading an independent clinical trial, a clinical trial feasibility study, or an ancillary clinical trial. Applicants to this FOA are permitted to propose research experience in a clinical trial led by a mentor or co-mentor.

-Although not specific for URMs, the Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program (UROP) of the University of Utah provides undergraduate students and mentors the opportunity to work together on research or creative projects. UROP provides a $1,200 stipend and educational programming for students who assist with a faculty member’s research or creative project or who carry out a project of their own under the supervision of a faculty member. Students may apply for UROP any semester and may be eligible for a one-semester renewal. UROP awardees are hired as temporary, part-time employees by the Office of Undergraduate Research and are paid $1,200 for 120 hours of research or creative work during the semester (our.utah.edu/urop).

-Each PI may also work with the Corporate and Foundation relations team of the External Relations at Moran to obtain specific donations to fund an URM student considered particularly deserving (contact person: Lynn Ward; lynn.ward@hsc.utah.edu): Undergraduates are paid between $10 - $12.50/hour and range from 0.38 to 0.49 full-time equivalent (FTE). Yearly pay would range from $7,934 - $12,789/year plus minimal benefits/taxes. Graduate students are 0.50 FTE and they are currently paid $29,131.20/year plus medical/dental insurance and tuition.

2) Possibilities of funding for early career researchers at laboratories at the Moran Eye Center:

-American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) Mentor Awards (aaas.org/awards/mentor/about): The two categories of the AAAS Mentor Awards (Lifetime Mentor Award and Mentor Award) both honor individuals who during their careers demonstrate extraordinary leadership to increase the participation of underrepresented groups in science and
engineering fields and careers. These groups include: women of all racial or ethnic groups; African American, Native American, and Hispanic men; and people with disabilities.

-The L’Oréal USA For Women in Science fellowship program awards five women postdoctoral scientists annually with grants of $60,000 each for their contributions in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) fields and commitment to serving as role models for younger generations (loreal.com/en/usa/pages/group/fwis).

-Genentech Career Development Award for Underrepresented Minority Emerging Vision Scientists (arvo.org/awards-grants-and-fellowships/research-awards/genentech-career-development-award-for-URM-emerging-vision-scientists): The Genentech Career Development Award for Underrepresented Minority Emerging Vision Scientists provides research funding to early-career underrepresented minority (URM) investigators who have received their initial faculty appointment and are working to establish an independent vision research program. The award provides a two-year grant totaling $100,000 to support research and personnel costs.

3) **Possibilities of funding for the entire department:**

- National Institutes of Health (NIH) Prize for Enhancing Faculty Gender Diversity (challenge.gov/challenge/nih-prize-for-enhancing-faculty-gender-diversity): The Prize for Enhancing Faculty Gender Diversity seeks to recognize those institutions whose biomedical and behavioral science departments, centers, or divisions have achieved sustained improvement in gender diversity.

- The Vice President for Research Office will be implementing ONE U Funding Programs to facilitate research in EDI-related topics and support efforts to diversify the research community. The programs include voluntary cost-shares, diversity administrative supplements, and grant writing support. More information can be obtained at research.utah.edu/edi/funding-opportunities.php.