



Foundation Receives 71 Proposals for Equine Research

Grayson-Jockey Club Research Foundation has received proposals for 71 research projects at 35 institutions. The projects will be evaluated over the next few months by the Foundation's 32-person Research Advisory Committee, which will convene in Fort Worth in January to hammer out the final rankings. The recommendations will be passed on to the Grayson-Jockey Club Research Foundation board of directors, who will make the final decision on which projects to fund. In recent years, the Foundation has had an annual budget of more than \$1 million for research funding.

"October is our annual deadline for projects, and it launches a very exciting and exacting process," said Edward L. Bowen, president of the Foundation. "We are pleased that the equine research community is generating so many ideas. The total of 71 is well above last year's total of about 40 proposals. Of course, the downside of having so many projects is the reality that there will be many projects which we will want to fund but which cannot be fitted into the research budget for 2016. One of my favorite tasks is notifying a Principal Investigator that we will fund his or her project, and one of my least favorite tasks is having to notify those whose projects cannot be funded."

"That's why Grayson-Jockey Club is always in an aggressive fund-raising mode. The more we can raise the more projects we can fund, and the more horses we can help."

"The range of problems being addressed in these proposals illustrates the vitality of the equine research community," said Dr. Johnny Mac Smith, the Foundation's veterinary consultant. "There are projects on sesamoid fracture prevention, herpesvirus, genomics, advanced imaging of the distal limb, laminitis, training surfaces... the list goes on and on."

"The projects represent the top research universities in North America, and we seem to be attracting interest from more overseas universities. This year we have proposals from the Royal Veterinary College, the Swiss Federal Polytechnic Institute, the Veterinary University of Vienna, Ludwig Maximilians University in Munich, and the Universities of Bologna, Glasgow, Melbourne, and Queensland."