

investing in the future through medical research

SIR ZELMAN COWEN UNIVERSITIES FUND

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Administrative Officer: Ms Sue Freedman Levy
Supervising Trustee: Professor Jonathan Stone
Honorary Auditor: Mr Ken Martin

About the Fund Information Leaflet

WHAT WE DO AND WHO WE ARE

The **Sir Zelman Cowen Universities Fund** is dedicated to the support of medical research at the University of Sydney and the Hebrew University of Jerusalem under the direction of its Patron and Trustees.

The Trustees are committed to fund basic medical research of the highest scientific merit. They are advised by a Scientific Advisory Committee of eminent scientists. The Trustees are appointed in equal number by the University of Sydney and the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

Patron :

Sir Zelman Cowen AK GCMG CCVO QC DCL

Trustees

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Professor Jonathan Stone DSc FAA

Challis Professor of Anatomy, University of Sydney

All grants made by the Fund are disbursed to the University of Sydney for projects nominated by the Fund's Trustees at both Universities.

OUR RECORD

Since 1978 the **Sir Zelman Cowen Universities Fund** has provided millions of dollars to support medical research in a wide range of disciplines - the development of cultured skin for the treatment of burns and infection, the management of maturity onset diabetes, the control of pulmonary blood flow, fundamental research into the function of the heart and central nervous system, the molecular biology of AIDS and of other infectious diseases, and the study and early diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease.

This work, done at the University of Sydney and the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, has contributed to the increasing power of medical science to deal with human disease in all its forms - to diagnose, to cure and, where no cure is available, to treat. We understand that the power of modern medicine comes from its ability to combine knowledge with care, and that its impotence in the face of some diseases comes from ignorance, from what we do not know.

With this understanding the Trustees affirm the Fund's long term goal, to aid the gaining of knowledge which will relieve human suffering, through basic medical research.

THE ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE AND INFLAMMATION INITIATIVE

Among the most challenging of diseases are the still-incurable degenerative diseases of the nervous system. Almost everyone has known someone suffering from **Alzheimer's disease** (AD) - the most common form of intellectual disablement of older people. It is the most prevalent cause of loss of quality of life in older Australians, and causes great anguish to both the sufferers and those who care for them.

The *Alzheimer's Disease and Inflammation Initiative* was set up to target SZCUF resources to a promising and neglected feature of AD, the protection given by anti-inflammatory drugs. That protective effect has been increasingly confirmed. The research funded under our Initiative is designed to define the mechanism of the protection, and how this knowledge can be used to prevent and delay Alzheimer's disease, using readily available drugs.

Projects receiving funding as part of this Initiative, have undergone a rigorous process of peer-review administered by the Fund's Scientific Advisory Committee to ensure the most effective targeting of funds. (See our Newsletters at www.szcuf.org.usyd.edu.au for reports of progress from the research groups)

HOW YOUR CONTRIBUTION WILL WORK IN THE FUND

A major purpose of the **Sir Zelman Cowen Universities Fund** is to support medical and scientific research. The Trustees and Scientific Advisory Committee serve in an honorary capacity, **ensuring that a very high proportion of contributions go directly to research**, and without diversion to other organizations. Funds are distributed to research groups, through the University of Sydney or the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, for work on projects identified by their quality and relevance to the Fund's goals. The Fund can make provision for contributors of major sums to designate specific areas of research to which they would like their donation to be directed. *Your contribution to this Fund is a contribution to the well-being of all Australians and people throughout the world.*

To make a tax-deductible donation to the Fund, complete the slip below and mail it to the Fund.

Sir Zelman Cowen Universities Fund

Dept of Anatomy and Histology, University of Sydney, F13, NSW 2006
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or

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