A Brief Summary

Concept:

In 2012, the Thomas Hartman Foundation for Parkinson’s Research began searching for a way to create a legacy for Father Hartman’s battle against Parkinson’s disease. To this end, they approached Stony Brook University (SBU) about endowing an individual professorship; The Thomas Hartman Chair for Parkinson’s Research. The Department Chair of Neurobiology and Behavior, Lorna Role, and Craig Evinger, a Parkinson’s disease (PD) investigator, met with members of the Board of Directors from the Hartman Foundation and suggested another approach to creating a legacy for Father Tom. Drs. Role and Evinger suggested that a cure to Parkinson’s disease was more likely to be found by bringing new investigators into the field of Parkinson’s research than by supporting an individual investigator with an endowed chair. The Hartman Foundation for Parkinson’s Research Board liked the idea and organized a series of galas to raise money for the Thomas Hartman Center for Parkinson’s Research at Stony Brook University.

Creation:

In 2013, through the hard work of the Hartman Foundation Board and the generosity of a matching grant by the Simon’s Foundation, the Thomas Hartman Center for Parkinson’s Research was born. With the advent of the Hartman Center for Parkinson’s Research, along with the facilities and resources available at SBU, world renowned scientists have been encouraged to focus their efforts on PD.

The Hartman Center assembled a Research Evaluation Panel and announced an annual funding opportunity, a Request for Proposals (RFP), inviting investigators to propose research aimed at understanding or treating PD. Utilizing a rapid turn-around system of reviewing submitted proposals on the basis of novelty, relevance to PD, and feasibility in generating preliminary data necessary to obtain future external funding, the Center provided funding for Starter and Pilot projects. The past three years of funding enabled numerous investigators with no previous experience in PD research to bring their skills from other areas of research and focus on PD.

Results:

Since we began funding in 2013 until now (07/2016), the influx of investigators into PD research through the Hartman Center has already generated numerous successes including:

- Hartman Center applications were received from 55 investigators, spanning 13 SBU departments
- The Hartman Awards Distributed have already yielded:
  - 10 External Grant Applications
  - 9 Trainee Awards
  - 25 Peer Reviewed Publications
  - 27 Seminar Presentations and Posters (Domestic and International)
  - 3 Annual Symposia attended by 174 diverse stakeholders
  - 2 Outreach Activities
There remains much to accomplish in translating scientific discovery to improved outcomes for those suffering with Parkinson’s Disease. The Thomas Hartman Center at Stony Brook continues to draw new investigators into Parkinson’s research bringing novel ideas and approaches to attacking this devastating disease.

1. **Extended Community:**

![Diagram showing the Hartman Center for Parkinson's Disease Extended Community]

- **2012:** 2 PI's investigating PD
- **2013:** Hartman Center for Parkinson's Research Center Created
- **2016:** 229 Professionals interested in exploring PD

The Hartman Center for Parkinson's Disease Extended Community

- Pre Hartman Center PD Investigators
- Symposium Attendees
- Post Hartman Center PD Investigators

- 174
- 53
- 2
II. Projects Awarded 2013 – 2016

Hartman Center for Parkinson's Research
40 Projects Awarded (2013-2016)

III. Applications Represented 13 SBU Departments

Hartman Award Application Submissions by Department (13)

Hartman Center for Parkinson's Research Outputs 2013-2016

- Presentations at External Meetings: 9
- Publications: 25
- Applications for External Funding: 27
- Trainee Awards: 10