



RESEARCH GRANTS PROGRAM OFFICE

April 1, 2025

California Breast Cancer Research Program
University of California
Office of the President
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Hello CBCRP Stakeholders,

On behalf of President Drake, we are soliciting nominations for appointment to the California Breast Cancer Research Council, the advisory body to the California Breast Cancer Research Program, which the University of California administers on behalf of the state of California.

Current council members are listed on the program's Web site at <http://cbcrcp.org/about/research-council/index.html>. Council members have provided invaluable advice, commitment, and oversight to the program. Members serve staggered, overlapping, three-year terms. We are seeking nominations for **up to four openings for terms to begin September 1, 2025**. In keeping with the state statutes (California Health & Safety Code, Section 104145), each of the new members must represent a particular breast cancer constituency. **We seek to diversify membership of the Council, especially in relation to gender and with scientists with expertise in breast cancer issues among underserved populations.** This year, the University will appoint up to:

- **Two scientists or clinicians who are active in basic science, clinical, public health, or health policy research in breast cancer or other related fields;**
- **One representative from breast cancer patient advocacy organization(s) who understands the research funding process;**
- **One representative from private industry active in breast cancer related issues, particularly biotechnology or biopharmaceuticals.**

For all council openings, we are seeking candidates who have demonstrated knowledge about and commitment to breast cancer issues and who appreciate the urgency of the program's mission and the need to challenge the status quo in scientific inquiry. We prefer candidates who have experience with rigorous, confidential, peer review of research proposals. Although we will provide new members with a thorough orientation to the CBCRP's grant-making policies and procedures, prior familiarity with the peer review process will enhance the member's ability to provide informed guidance on program policies and priorities.

In addition to maintaining the balance between scientists and non-scientists specified in the statutes, we try to create a reasonable balance in relation to expertise on issues facing underserved populations (e.g., racial/ethnic minorities, rural populations, and sexual minority women) and institutional affiliation. However, commitment to the program's mission is the core

criterion. **In order to qualify to serve on the council, the person must be a resident of California.**

In suggesting nominees, please keep in mind the following considerations. The council currently meets four times per year, usually for a day and a half. Members serve without compensation but receive reimbursement for travel and other necessary expenses actually incurred in the performance of their official duties. Also, council members must pledge to abide by the CBCRP's conflict of interest and confidentiality policies. ***By statute, a council member is not eligible to seek or be awarded CBCRP grants, serve in a substantial scientific role on a CBCRP-funded project, or benefit financially from CBCRP grants awarded during tenure on the council or for any grant cycle which the member helps plan.*** This policy is responsive to the need to avoid actual or perceived conflicts of interest.

Should you wish to nominate yourself or another individual for consideration, please use the attached form (or complete the form on-line at <http://cbcrp.org/about/research-council/nominations.html>) and submit their names and résumés no later than June 30, 2025. Please also include acknowledgment that they are interested in serving, should they be selected. Previous council members may be nominated to serve another term.

If you have any questions, please contact me at sharima.rasanayagam@ucop.edu.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "M.S. Ranganathan" with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Sharima Rasanayagam, PhD
Director, CBCRP