

APPLICATION CRITERIA AND PROJECT INFORMATION

1. Relevance to the field of biomedical optics and analytics.
2. Sufficient background to evaluate the scope and nature of the problem as well as the current standard of care, evidence of the need and multi stakeholder perspective.
3. Potential patient and healthcare impact.
4. Innovative aspects of the approach.
5. Likelihood that achievement of experimental endpoints will lead to a potential collaboration with a commercial partner.
6. Team expertise and motivation.
7. Potential for the fellow to learn the importance of translating new discoveries to clinical practice, the language required to make the process effective and what it really takes (expertise, partnerships, time, money).

Research Component

Must include a detailed research plan developed jointly by the candidate and the research faculty mentor in science/engineering and/or medicine/biology. Research plan must be a minimum of three (3) pages and must not exceed five (5) pages.

Translational Sciences Component

Must include one (1) page training plan developed with the translational sciences mentor. The plan should NOT describe the project business plan, but how the fellow will be involved and learn about specific steps to be taken in order to translate new discoveries emerging from the project into new diagnostics or treatments for patients in need. May include actions such as: participating in courses and/or attending seminars and series focusing on translational research, working with clinicians, interacting with academic and/or commercial partners, participating in the writing and approval of animal experiments and/or human studies, applying for/or participating in translational research grants, and publishing a paper reporting on the work performed during the 1 SPIE-Franz Hillenkamp Fellowship, highlighting both the research and translational sciences components.