

UCSF researcher wins prestigious HelDi Award

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Kajimura honored for research in diabetes

BY KATHLEEN JAY

Last week, UCSF researcher Shingo Kajimura [1], PhD, was honored in the field of diabetes research at the second annual Helmholtz-Nature Medicine Diabetes Conference [2] in Munich, Germany.

Recognized for his ground-breaking research in engineering brown fat cells to fight obesity [3], Kajimura shared the Novo Nordisk Helmholtz Young Investigator Diabetes (HelDi) Award honoring outstanding young scientists with Brian Finan, an investigator from the Helmholtz Zentrum München, at which he studies medicinal therapy strategies for diabetes and obesity.

"I am deeply-honored to be selected for this award by my esteemed colleagues. I also would like to acknowledge all my lab members who contributed significantly to the research program and my colleagues in UCSF for their warmest supports," Kajimura said.

Kajimura and his lab at UCSF specialize in research of brown fat cells -- the opposite of white fat cells, which contribute to the storage of fat and obesity.

"The prize honors young talents for their excellent research results," Ulrich Stolz, Vice President of Novo Nordisk [4] said. "We want to encourage young scientists to continue their research and also to pursue the translational potential in order to build on their findings and develop new treatment strategies."

In studying the development of brown fat cells, Dr. Kajimura's goal is to figure out a way to produce brown fat to expend energy and fight obesity -- a major risk factor for many metabolic diseases, such as type 2 diabetes.

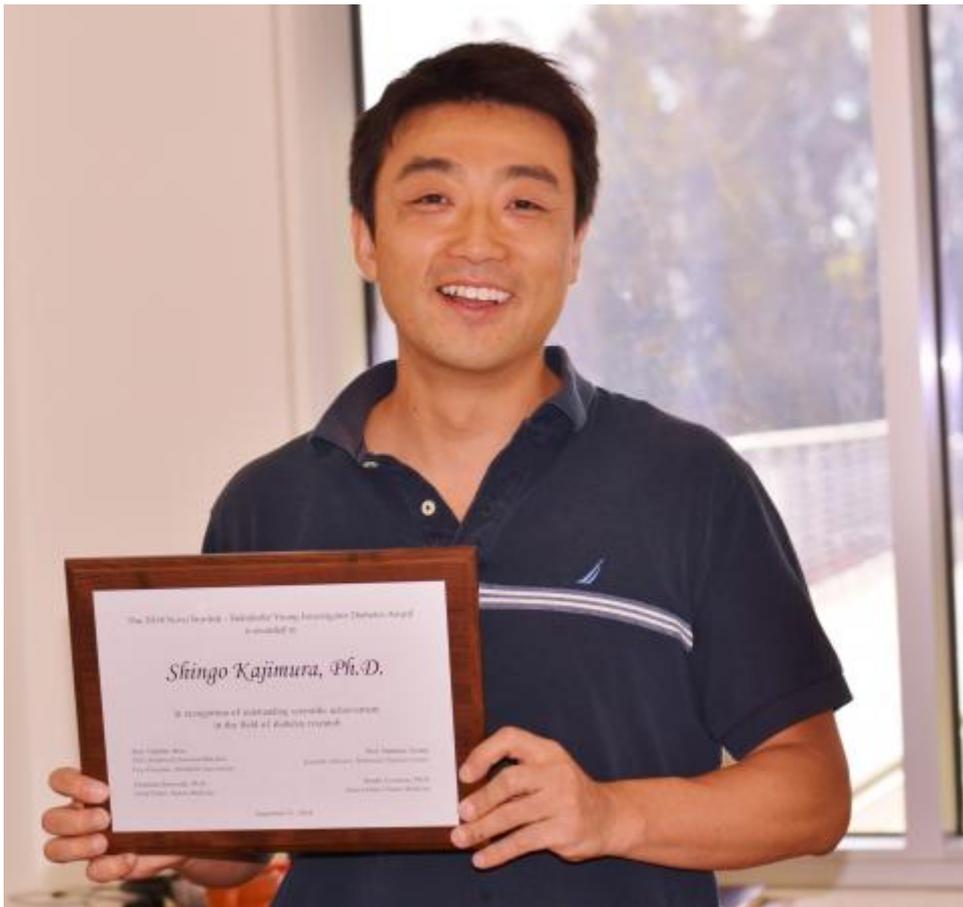
"Shingo is a trail-blazing investigator," said Matthias Hebrok [5], PhD and Director of UCSF's Diabetes Center. "We are thrilled that he is being recognized by the international science community with this award."

For more information, visit diabetes.ucsf.edu. [6]



Pictured from left to right: Matthias Tschöp (HMGU), Anette-Gabriele Ziegler (HMGU), Günther Wess (HMGU), Brian Finan (HMGU), Shingo Kajimura (University of California, San Francisco), Ulrich Stolz (Novo Nordisk), Randy Levinson (Nature Medicine) at the second annual Helmholtz-Nature Medicine Diabetes Conference in Munich, Germany on Sept. 23, 2014. (Source: Helmholtz Zentrum München)

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Source URL: <https://diabetes.ucsf.edu/news/ucsf-researcher-wins-prestigious-heidi-award>

Links

[1] <https://diabetes.ucsf.edu/shingo-kajimura>

[2] <https://www.helmholtz-muenchen.de/en/news/press-releases/2014/press->

release/article/25152/index.html#!prettyPhoto

[3] <http://kajimuralab.ucsf.edu/>

[4] <http://www.novonordisk.com/default.asp>

[5] <https://diabetes.ucsf.edu/matthias-hebrok>

[6] <http://diabetes.ucsf.edu>.