

VICE PRESIDENT FOR PHILANTHROPY
HUMAN IMMUNOME PROJECT
REMOTE LOCATION



Aspen Leadership Group is proud to partner with the Human Immunome Project (HIP) in the search for a Vice President for Philanthropy.

The Vice President for Philanthropy will work with the Chief Executive Officer and Board of Directors to maintain and grow HIP's existing portfolio of industry and foundation donors and prospects while building a pipeline of individual major funders. As HIP puts its *Scientific Strategic Plan* into action, it is seeking a Vice President for Philanthropy to work closely with HIP leaders as they build the resources needed to complete a worldwide health resource that will change the paradigm of global human health.

The Human Immunome Project is a global nonprofit organization dedicated to decoding and modeling the immune system. Together with its network of partners, HIP is pioneering the next frontier in health and medicine. HIP envisions a future that harnesses the power of the immune system to improve health for all. A future where life expectancy and access to lifesaving preventative care, diagnostics, and treatment are not dependent on your race or ethnicity, where you live or your socioeconomic status. A future where pandemics can be stopped in their tracks, and we can beat infectious and non-communicable diseases alike.

The human immune system is one of the most complex systems in the world—and one of its most important. It determines whether we survive infancy, which diseases we get, how we age, and how long we live. Within it lies the secrets of who will respond, and how, to potential threats to our health. Understanding our immune system is the key to fighting disease and improving health for all. Yet its complexity has limited our ability to tap into its potential—until now. Recent advances in AI provide the tools to rapidly process the trillions of datapoints required to model the immune system, understand how it varies across individuals, and develop targeted approaches to elongating health spans and combatting disease. The Human Immunome Project was designed to meet this moment—to combine systems biology with the power of artificial intelligence, to decode and model the immune system to improve health for all.

The Human Immunome Project welcomed new leadership in 2023 with Dr. Hans Keirstead assuming the role of Chief Executive Officer. Throughout the year, work continued alongside the Scientific Steering Committee, led by Dr. John Tsang and Dr. Shai Shen-Orr to articulate a global study protocol and scaling strategy to generate the world's largest immunological dataset and build publicly available AI models of the immune system. With the release of the [*Scientific Strategic Plan*](#), HIP 2.0 was launched and began to execute on an actionable strategy to transform the future of global health.

REPORTING RELATIONSHIPS

The Vice President for Philanthropy will report to the Chief Executive Officer, Dr. Hans Keirstead and work closely with the Chief of Staff, Michelle Denise. The Vice President will oversee two consultants and work collaboratively with the Director of Communications as well as other HIP staff.

FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

The Human Immunome Project represents our best shot at understanding how the human immune system varies person by person, throughout a lifetime, and across different populations around the world, knowledge that will lay the foundation for personalized medicine. This is why I agreed to take the position of Chief Executive Officer in May 2023.

HIP is a dynamic global nonprofit organization committed to its far-reaching mission. Since 2023 we have led the creation of a new Scientific Strategic Plan which we are currently operating under. The mandate of this plan, endorsed by 100 immunologists and presented at a conference in Barcelona this past November, is to facilitate the collection of advanced immunological data from six continents, encompassing diverse socio-economic backgrounds, eleven distinct age groups, various ethnicities, and five different disease state. This expansive data will drive groundbreaking models of a comprehensive human immunome.

I, our staff, and the Board are excited to meet the moment by creating a new position— Vice President for Philanthropy. The successful candidate will join our team as we build and execute a global fundraising strategy. This is a fantastic opportunity to join at the ground level to create the development culture for HIP and make a significant impact.

I have spent my entire career in the development of life saving and life improving medicines and it has been a frustrating experience to see the global health community not harness the tools available to address universal issues such as the immune system. I am energized at the prospect of making that a reality through HIP, and doing so in a way that recognizes and puts at the forefront the need of applying diversity, equity, and inclusion in our research plan and our organization.

We are seeking a motivated and dedicated individual who is passionate about our mission and who has experience with corporate, foundation, and individual major donors in health philanthropy, academia, or a related field. As many of our current and prospective partners come from the biotechnology and pharmaceutical industry, we hope that you have experience or familiarity working in or with those types of companies.

I spend a lot of my time and energy not only with the Scientific team and Board, but on relationships with our strategic partners. I know that your success is HIP's success.

The Vice President role requires a leader who can effectively strategize and execute long-term plans while also managing short-term goals and objectives. This individual must possess exceptional organizational skills and display a strong sense of accountability. A tolerance of risk and ambiguity will be absolutely necessary. However, we also value a positive and enjoyable work atmosphere, where optimism and collaboration are key. With colleagues working across time zones, we have the utmost respect for employee work-life balance while maintaining excellent responsiveness and quality of work.

We invite applications from individuals who have an understanding and passion for our mission and appreciate the unique challenges and opportunities associated with fundraising in the health philanthropy or academic setting. Thank you for your consideration!

—Hans S. Keirstead, Ph.D., Chief Executive Officer

FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

I am very excited to work with a Vice President for Philanthropy.

We are on an historic mission to transform the way we understand sickness and health. Our work follows on from one of humanity's greatest achievements, which was sequencing the human genome. But our DNA, that code of life, cannot explain all of disease. To understand the rest of disease, we have to understand why and how the immune system fails, and why it fails in some people and not in others.

Decoding the human immunome was literally unthinkable until the most recent advances in both immune monitoring and machine learning. Now is the time to push the boundaries for studying the immune system from a process of cataloguing to a process of modeling. Doing so will help us predict what is going to happen, understand the underlying mechanism of why, and ultimately determine how to intervene to change the course of disease progression—or prevent it from happening in the first place.

HIP will create the world's largest database of diverse, global immunological data, and make it available for free to the public on a pre-competitive basis. No other government, company, or institution is prepared or equipped to do this, which is why we take such inspiration from a project like CERN, who build the world's largest and most powerful particle accelerator, an asset that brings the world's physicists together across political divides to collaborate.

We are operating at the leading edge of science and technology, and we can be as innovative in our philanthropy as we are in our science. Our goal is to have impact and to make sure that we provide value back to the people who participate and the communities where we operate. We're looking for a colleague who embraces this mission and brings their own experience, perspective, and wisdom to our organization.

There is enormous interest in this project and so much opportunity to make a dent in the universe, as Steve Jobs would have said. I look forward to working very closely with you to strategize and convert this interest into resources that can make this mission all it can be.

—Jane Metcalfe, Board Chair

PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITIES

The Vice President for Philanthropy will

- manage and grow a portfolio of philanthropic partners;
- working with a Board-level committee, develop and implement a comprehensive fundraising plan that meets the organization's annual revenue goals;
- lead the Chief Executive Officer and Board in a pipeline development process to identify, cultivate, and solicit new partners;
- identify opportunities for donor cultivation and stewardship within existing initiatives including speaking engagements for the Chief Executive Officer, Board, and scientific leadership;
- facilitate proposal development and fundraising strategies that align with HIP's *Scientific Strategic Plan*, goals, and vision;
- oversee all components of the development and partnership pipeline from identification through solicitation and stewardship;
- work closely with the Chief Executive Officer and leadership team to develop fundraising strategies and goals;
- manage part time staff and development consultants to ensure the data in the prospect tracking system is maintained;
- serve as an active partner with the Director of Communications to ensure alignment of messaging across platforms;

- collaborate with the communications team to develop and execute effective donor communications and marketing materials;
- monitor and analyze fundraising data to evaluate performance and adjust strategies as needed; and
- work with finance team to ensure proper recording and invoicing for all successful proposals.

LEADERSHIP

Dr. Hans Keirstead Chief Executive Officer

Dr. Hans Keirstead was appointed Chief Executive Officer, Human Immunome Project on May 22, 2023. He is an internationally known stem cell expert and serial entrepreneur that led the development of a treatment that restored movement and sensory function to people with quadriplegic spinal cord injury, and a treatment for cancer that has saved the lives of people with melanoma, brain cancer, and ovarian cancer. He has also led therapy development for immune disorders, motor neuron diseases, and retinal diseases, as well as a vaccine for COVID-19. He has founded five successful biotechnology companies, each returning significant value to investors and treatments to patients. Every one of his prior companies has sold to large or mid-sized pharmaceutical companies for 2.5X-9.5X returns to investors, after return of investment capital. Dr. Keirstead holds Board positions in several prominent biotechnology companies.

Previously, he was a Professor at the University of California, Irvine where he founded and directed and raised the money to build the \$77 million Sue and Bill Gross Stem Cell Research Center. As a Full Professor of Anatomy and Neurobiology, he was awarded over \$16 million in grants during his 15-year tenure. He has mentored over 100 students, published over 100 manuscripts, and granted over 20 patents. He was awarded the Distinguished Award for Research, the UCI Academic Senate's highest honor, as well as the UCI Innovation Award for innovative research leading to corporate and clinical development. He was awarded the National Institutes of Health's Soloway Award for the most promising scientist of the year. He was awarded the Touching One Billion People Award by Singularity University.

He was a founding advisor of the California Stem Cell Initiative that resulted in a \$3 billion stem cell fund (CIRM). He has been a long-time advisor to several governments on biomedical policy.

Dr. Keirstead has been a notable figure in the field of regenerative medicine for over three decades. His work in spinal cord injury earned him the distinction of being one of 100 top scientists of the year in *Discover Magazine*. He was featured on *60 Minutes* in a full segment covering his treatment for spinal cord injury. Dr. Keirstead also has appeared in *Newsweek*, *Inc. Magazine*, *WIRED*, *Esquire*, *The NY Times*, *TIME Magazine*, *Men's Vogue*, *Science* and *The American Spectator*, among other national publications. He has given dozens of keynote addresses, was a TEDx speaker, was recently honored as one of seven thought leaders in Canada at the Seven Wonderer's event by Beakerhead and was recently awarded the Top 20 Canadians Award by the Consul General of Canada.

Dr. Keirstead received his Ph.D. in neuroscience from the University of British Columbia, Canada for which he received the Cameron Award for the outstanding Ph.D. thesis in the country. He conducted post-doctoral studies at the University of Cambridge. He received the distinct honor of election as Senate Member of the University of Cambridge and Fellow of the Governing Body of Downing College and was the youngest member to have been elected to those positions.

PREFERRED COMPETENCIES AND QUALIFICATIONS

The Human Immunome Project seeks a Vice President for Philanthropy with

- a commitment to the mission of the Human Immunome Project—to generate diverse immunological datasets at scale and build publicly available AI models of the immune system to accelerate medical research and drug discovery, improve health, and decrease healthcare costs worldwide;
- business development experience within an academic research, bio/pharma, or health philanthropy setting;
- strategic thinking skills and an ability to act with autonomy;
- a desire to build processes in service of exceeding organizational goals;
- an embrace of HIP's core values of collaboration, diversity, health equity, privacy, scientific rigor, and transparency;
- experience working with boards, committees, and volunteers in the execution of development strategies;
- an ability to understand and synthesize scientific concepts for different audiences and for different purposes;
- strong written and oral communication skills, including public speaking skills, and an ability to tailor messages to specific audiences or stakeholder communities;
- strong leadership and management skills;
- excellent organizational and time management skills, including an ability to coordinate and analyze large amounts of information and manage multiple deadlines simultaneously;
- experience with fundraising CRMs; and
- an ability to work collaboratively with colleagues, board members, and advisors from a variety of disciplines and backgrounds.

A bachelor's degree or an equivalent combination of education and experience and at least seven years of experience is preferred for this role, including at least three years of experience in healthcare, hospital, or medical related philanthropy. The Human Immunome Project will consider candidates with a broad range of backgrounds. If you are excited about this role and feel that you can contribute to HIP, but your experience does not exactly align with every qualification listed above, we encourage you to apply.

SALARY AND BENEFITS

The salary range for this position is \$150,000 to \$175,000 annually. The Human Immunome Project offers a comprehensive package of benefits including fully a funded healthcare plan, 401k matching, unlimited PTO, and the opportunity to work remotely.

LOCATION

This is a remote position with a preference for the Northeast or Midwest (Metropolitan Chicago). Travel is required, for this position (approximately 25% domestic with one to two international trips annually).

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

All applications must be accompanied by a cover letter and résumé. ***Cover letters should be responsive to the mission of the Human Immunome Project as well as the responsibilities and qualifications presented in the prospectus.*** Review of applications will begin immediately and will continue until the successful candidate has been selected.

To apply for this position, visit: [Vice President for Philanthropy, Human Immunome Project](#).

To nominate a candidate, please contact Steven Wallace, stevenwallace@aspenleadershipgroup.com.

All inquiries will be held in confidence.