110 YEARS OF RESEARCH PROPELLING CANCER PREVENTION AND CURES

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR CANCER RESEARCH
2017 ANNUAL REPORT

AACR American Association for Cancer Research®
FINDING CURES TOGETHER®

CONTENTS

Left to right:
AACR Chief Executive Officer Margaret Foti, PhD, MD (hc); AACR President (2106-2017) Nancy E. Davidson, MD, FAACR; AACR President (2015-2016) José Baselga, MD, PhD, FAACR; AACR President (2017-2018) Michael A. Caligiuri, MD.

RESEARCH PROPELLING CANCER PREVENTION AND CURES

MICHAEL A. CALIGIURI, MD
AACR President 2017-2018

NANCY E. DAVIDSON, MD, FAACR
AACR President 2016-2017

MARGARET FOTI, PHD, MD (HC)
AACR Chief Executive Officer

Dear Colleagues and Friends:

On May 7, 1907, eleven prominent scientists met at the Willard Hotel in Washington, D.C., to develop an organization of investigators "to further the investigation and spread the knowledge of cancer." This date marks the founding of the American Association for Cancer Research (AACR), the first scientific society in the world to focus specifically on cancer.

One hundred and ten years after the birth of this vital organization, we are pleased to present the 2017 AACR Annual Report. The report highlights the AACR's progress during the past year in support of our mission: to prevent and cure all cancers through research, education, communication, collaboration, funding, and advocacy. It also commemorates the 110th anniversary of the AACR's founding, with sidebars featuring historical data and members of the cancer community discussing the impact that the AACR has made on their lives.

In April 2017, the AACR returned to Washington—the city of its founding—to host the Annual Meeting. The theme of that meeting, "Research Propelling Cancer Prevention and Cures," is also the theme of this report. The report summarizes a spectacular year of growth and innovation for the AACR, one that is worthy of our proud history. The Annual Meeting again set attendance records, as more than 21,800 scientists, clinicians, other health care professionals, survivors, and advocates gathered to share the latest advances in cancer science. AACR Project GENIE laid the groundwork to nearly double its dataset—expanding its registry to more than 39,000 tumor sequences and associated clinical data—and completed its first two sponsored clinical studies, moving closer to delivering on the promise of using precision medicine to benefit cancer patients. And the AACR demonstrated its commitment to global scientific excellence by expanding its programs to the African and South American continents, hosting new conferences in Cape Town, South Africa, and Sao Paulo, Brazil.

This anniversary year was a time for the AACR to honor its storied past. But from those 11 founders in 1907 to our 40,000 members today, the AACR has always looked to the future. Every day, our basic and translational scientists strive to make the next discovery and our clinicians strive to develop and administer the next breakthrough treatment to help our survivors continue their journeys. Together, as we advance the frontiers of cancer science and medicine, we are leading discoveries, targeting cures, and saving lives.

CHANGING THE FACE OF CANCER

While 2017 was a year to honor the AACR's past with its 110th anniversary celebration, it was also a year for the AACR leadership to focus on strategic initiatives for the organization's future—and with it, the future of cancer research. At the end of 2016, the AACR Board of Directors approved the Vision 2020 Strategic Plan that it had developed with the AACR staff to set a course for the organization's growth and impact on cancer research. The plan revised and restated the vision and mission of the AACR and established seven strategic priorities to guide the organization through 2020.

VISION AND MISSION

To be the most effective catalyst for the cures and prevention of all cancers through:

- **Research**
- **Education**
- **Communication**
- **Collaboration**
- **Funding for Cancer Research**
- **Advocacy**

At an AACR Annual Meeting 2017 session titled "Are There New Hallmarks of Cancer?," Robert A. Weinberg, PhD, FAACR, and Douglas Hanahan, PhD, FAACR—authors of the seminal 2000 paper that outlined the six common traits that govern the transformation of normal cells to cancer cells—explored the possibility of new enabling characteristics that could expand the definition of hallmarks. The first strategic priority outlined in the Vision 2020 Strategic Plan is to identify, promote, and fund the innovative science that leads to these types of shifts in the scientific paradigm.

2017-2018 AACR President Michael A. Caligiuri, MD, and the AACR Board of Directors led efforts to develop and execute the Vision 2020 Strategic Plan.

1 To identify and foster innovative science that is of the highest priority and potential for impact in reducing cancer incidence, morbidity, and mortality

3 To publish and disseminate high-quality cancer science worldwide

5 To increase awareness of the AACR among the public

7 To develop and implement a comprehensive financial plan that supports the strategic plan and achieves dynamic growth and increased impact

2 To become the primary educational resource for cancer scientists, the broader cancer community, and the public

4 To meet the professional needs of members and increase international outreach and participation

6 To serve as the authoritative voice for cancer research and thereby inform and influence science and public policy

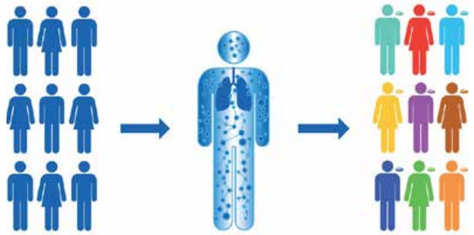
These strategic priorities will inform the AACR's actions for the next several years. As reflected in the programs and initiatives outlined in this Annual Report, the AACR worked throughout 2017 to realize the plan's objectives. Under the leadership of the Board of Directors, those efforts will continue over the next several years as the AACR works to fundamentally change the face of cancer.

FUELED BY RESEARCH

Discoveries across the breadth of research deepen our understanding of the many diseases known as cancer and are the driving force behind every advance across the continuum of cancer care and every legislative action designed to improve public health. Research-fueled advances in 2017 include the 16 new medical products approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for use in cancer care—15 new anticancer therapeutics and one new optical imaging agent to help visualize cancerous brain tissue during surgery. During this time, the FDA also approved ten previously approved anticancer therapeutics for treating new types of cancer.

Six of the anticancer therapeutics to gain FDA approvals in 2017 work by harnessing the power of a patient's own immune system to treat his or her cancer. These revolutionary therapeutics include the first ever CAR T–cell therapy—tisagenlecleucel (Kymriah)—which is a customized treatment created for each patient using immune cells called T cells harvested from his or her blood. They also include therapeutics called checkpoint inhibitors, which release brakes on the immune system. In 2017, one checkpoint inhibitor—pembrolizumab (Keytruda)—became the first ever cancer treatment approved for use based solely on whether a patient has a tumor with certain molecular characteristics rather than where in the body the tumor originated.

Ten of the newly approved anticancer therapeutics target specific molecules involved in cancer and are referred to as molecularly targeted therapeutics. Four of these therapeutics—copanlisib (Aliqopa), enasidenib (Idhifa), inotuzumab ozogamicin (Besponza), and midostaurin (Rydapt)—target cancer in new ways, which highlights how an increasing knowledge of cancer biology can lead to new treatment approaches. Molecularly targeted therapeutics are part of the precision medicine revolution that is ensuring that more people live longer, higher-quality lives after a cancer diagnosis, including Teri Woodhull (*right*).



As outlined in the AACR Cancer Progress Report 2017, *precision medicine is broadly defined as treating patients based on characteristics that distinguish them from other patients with the same disease* (left). *Patients are profiled to determine the factors that make them and their cancers unique* (center); *these factors include the patient's genome, the genome and epigenome of the cancer, and the patient's lifestyle. These factors are used to develop a personalized profile for each patient that physicians can use to tailor treatment for each patient* (right). *Details: http://www.aacr.org/precision.*

TERI WOODHULL
Cancer Survivor

A featured survivor in the *AACR Cancer Progress Report 2017*, Teri Woodhull was diagnosed with advanced ovarian cancer in November 2010. She chose to participate in clinical trials.

"I have opted to be treated through clinical trials because they give me something beyond the standard of care. Most recently, I have been receiving a targeted therapy called niraparib (Zejula). Although this treatment is not a cure, it has kept the cancer at bay for more than 2 years. It is also giving me a quality of life that was not possible with chemotherapy.

At this point, I have CT scans every 12 weeks. Every scan that shows niraparib is still keeping the cancer stable reminds me how fortunate I am. I also know that the path I chose, participating in clinical trials, is helping make a difference to the future of ovarian cancer care."

Inset: Teri and her dog during her treatment for ovarian cancer.
Left: Teri now enjoys a quality of life that was not possible with chemotherapy.

A featured survivor in the AACR Cancer Progress Report 2017, *Bill McCone, pictured here with his wife and daughters, was treated with the checkpoint inhibitor pembrolizumab.*

> "Achieving our goal of creating a cancer-free world will require consistent, annual, above-inflation increases in the budget for the National Institutes of Health."
>
> — MICHAEL A. CALIGIURI, MD, AACR PRESIDENT (2017–2018)
> *AACR CANCER PROGRESS REPORT 2017*

The AACR is proud to have helped catalyze the progress made against cancer in 2017 through its many programs, services, and initiatives. For example, early results from the clinical trial that led to the August 2017 FDA approval of enasidenib for treating certain patients with acute myeloid leukemia were first disseminated among scientists at the AACR Annual Meeting 2014.

With the number of cancer cases diagnosed in the United States rising every year, it is vital that the AACR increases public awareness about cancer and the importance of research for improving health and saving lives from cancer. The annual AACR Cancer Progress Report is a cornerstone of these educational efforts and the AACR's work to advocate for increased funding for the federal agencies that are vital for fueling progress against cancer, in particular, the National Institutes of Health (NIH), National Cancer Institute (NCI), and FDA.

The *AACR Cancer Progress Report 2017* achieves these goals by chronicling how federally funded research fueled progress against cancer over a 12-month period. The report also highlights that strong bipartisan commitment from Congress to keep investment in biomedical research a national priority will allows us to accelerate the pace of progress and save more lives from cancer.

As AACR President (2017–2018) Michael A. Caligiuri, MD, noted in the *AACR Cancer Progress Report 2017*, "Achieving our goal of creating a cancer-free world will require consistent, annual, above-inflation increases in the budget for the National Institutes of Health."

AACR ANNUAL MEETING 2017

ADVOCATING FOR THE CANCER RESEARCH AGENDA

On April 15, 1908—a year after founding the American Association for Cancer Research—the charter members of the AACR gathered at the New York State Cancer Laboratory (later renamed Roswell Park Cancer Institute) in Buffalo, New York, to discuss their most recent studies and observations related to the cancer problem. A total of 12 papers were presented at the one-day meeting, which was later designated as the first AACR Annual Meeting.

Since that auspicious beginning, the Annual Meeting has become the touchstone event for the entire cancer research community. The 2017 Annual Meeting hosted a record number of attendees for the fifth consecutive year, bringing together more than 21,800 scientists, clinicians, other health care professionals, survivors, patients, and advocates to Washington, D.C., to share the latest innovative cancer science. While the size and scope have increased dramatically since 1908, the mission of the Annual Meeting is the same—to foster the collaboration and communication that are critical to understanding, diagnosing, treating, and curing cancer.

Attendees visit the poster sessions during the 78th AACR Annual Meeting, May 20-23, 1987, in Atlanta, Georgia. More than 1,700 posters were presented at the meeting.

BEAU BIDEN CANCER MOONSHOT

In April 2016, then-Vice President Joe Biden addressed Annual Meeting attendees to discuss the launch of the National Cancer Moonshot Initiative. One year later, Mr. Biden returned to the AACR Annual Meeting to outline the progress made to date and to thank the attendees for their efforts to accelerate that progress. Noting that the initiative "had evolved from a program to a movement," Mr. Biden reminded the attendees that "this is no time to stop the momentum."

Following Mr. Biden's remarks, leaders from government, academia, industry, patient advocacy organizations, and Capitol Hill participated in a panel discussion titled "Beau Biden Cancer Moonshot: Progress and Promise." The panel addressed how the Beau Biden Cancer Moonshot provision that was included in the 21st Century Cures Act is stimulating the acceleration of progress against cancer and how it will result in better outcomes for patients.

TAKING A STAND FOR SUSTAINED CANCER RESEARCH FUNDING

While Annual Meeting attendees gathered to acknowledge and accelerate the recent progress made against cancer, they also united against potential threats to that progress. In the weeks before the meeting, the Trump Administration proposed to reject the $2 billion increase considered for the National Institutes of Health's 2017 budget while also releasing a 2018 budget that would cut an additional $5.8 billion from the NIH. During the opening ceremony, AACR President Nancy Davidson, MD, FAACR, presented a Distinguished Public Service Award to Senator Roy Blunt (R-MO), the chair of the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, in recognition of his dedication to ensuring sustained funding for the NIH. The opening ceremony closed with more than 12,000 meeting attendees standing in unison to express their belief that continued progress against cancer depends on making NIH funding a national priority.

> "this is no time to stop the momentum"
>
> — FORMER VICE PRESIDENT JOE BIDEN
> AACR ANNUAL MEETING 2017

Attendees visit the poster sessions during the 108th AACR Annual Meeting, April 1-5, 2017. More than 5,900 posters were presented at the meeting.

BRINGING THE PROMISE OF CANCER RESEARCH TO WASHINGTON

While providing a forum for leading scientists and clinicians to expand their expertise, the AACR also brought that expertise to the Washington, D.C. community through an educational event titled "Progress and Promise Against Cancer." Moderated by 2017-2018 AACR President Michael A. Caligiuri, MD, the event convened thought leaders from academic and government institutions with patient advocates to discuss important topics such as cancer prevention and early detection, the latest advances in precision medicine and immunotherapy, and how the current policy landscape might affect cancer patients.

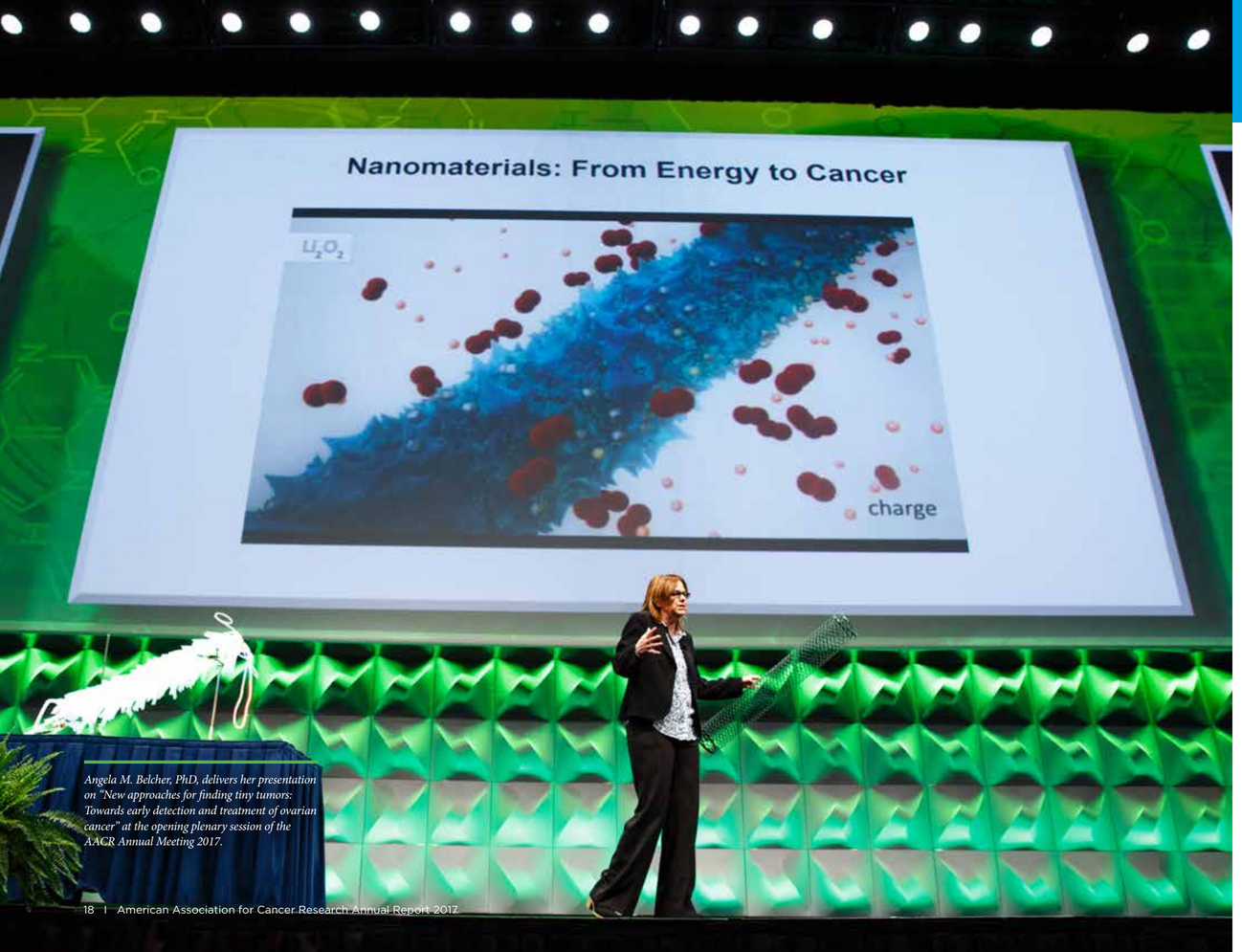
ANNUAL MEETING ATTENDANCE BY YEAR	
1908	**Attendance exceeds 10**
1954	**Attendance exceeds 500**
1959	**Attendance exceeds 1,000**
1989	**Attendance exceeds 5,000**
1999	**Attendance exceeds 10,000**
2005	**Attendance exceeds 15,000**
2017	**Attendance exceeds 20,000**

INNOVATIVE CANCER SCIENCE

The theme of the AACR Annual Meeting 2017, Research Propelling Cancer Prevention and Cures, highlights the fact that all of the progress made to date with regard to the prevention, detection, and treatment cancer is based on research. The multidisciplinary program brought together researchers from across the spectrum of cancer research with the goal of continuing that progress. Highlights of the cutting-edge cancer science presented at the meeting were summarized by AACR leaders in a wrap-up plenary session.

During the closing plenary, Kornelia Polyak, MD, PhD, chair of the 2017 Annual Meeting Program Committee, discussed key basic science presentations with a focus on new insights in cancer biology that were obtained using advanced technologies. Some of these presentations outlined how new technologies can be used to study different molecular characteristics of single cancer cells in a tumor—such as genetic, RNA, and protein characteristics—while others focused on noninvasive detection and monitoring tumor responses to therapy using liquid biopsies and molecular imaging. Polyak also highlighted presentations using CRISPR-based technologies to advance understanding of cancer genomics, 4C-seq technology to enhance knowledge of epigenetic changes in cancer cells, and artificial intelligence to help pathologists make more accurate diagnoses.

2017–2018 AACR President-Elect Elizabeth M. Jaffee, MD, provided an overview of some of the clinical trials presented at the meeting, focusing on three main areas. She opened by discussing several presentations on clinical trials using immunotherapies called checkpoint inhibitors. These included one trial showing that the five-year survival rate for lung cancer patients treated with nivolumab (Opdivo) was four times higher than the historical rate and several trials indicating that Merkel cell carcinoma and nasopharyngeal carcinoma respond to single-agent checkpoint inhibitor therapy. Jaffee then highlighted a second group of presentations showing the promise of other types of immunotherapy, including IDO inhibitors and CAR T cells, before closing by reviewing a number of trials about new ways to use two types of molecularly targeted therapies—HER2-targeted therapies and PARP inhibitors.



Angela M. Belcher, PhD, delivers her presentation on "New approaches for finding tiny tumors: Towards early detection and treatment of ovarian cancer" at the opening plenary session of the AACR Annual Meeting 2017.

Nancy E. Davidson, MD, FAACR, AACR President 2016–2017, highlighted several areas of cancer prevention and early detection research discussed at the meeting. The first area was the proposal of a precancer genome atlas project similar to The Cancer Genome Atlas to better understand the biology of precancerous lesions and identify new ways to intervene and prevent cancer from developing. She then focused on new efforts to reduce tobacco use and rates of obesity, both of which are responsible for a substantial number of cancer cases. Among the presentations Davidson discussed was one that suggested that introducing individuals to smoking cessation programs at the time of lung cancer screening might help reduce lung cancer deaths. She then concentrated on several presentations about therapeutic approaches to cancer prevention, including one suggesting that daily low-dose aspirin use can reduce cancer mortality and several reporting new approaches to precision prevention. Davidson concluded her summary by emphasizing presentations in the field of cancer health disparities research. Several of these presentations showed that there is a huge need for increased representation of racial and ethnic minorities in cancer genomics research, indicating that much work remains to be done to address this daunting challenge.

Michael A. Caligiuri, MD, AACR President 2017–2018, concluded the session by detailing areas of research he believes can drive immense progress against cancer in the future, such as enhancing efforts in cancer health disparities, harnessing the promise of big data, and educating the public about the importance of implementing our knowledge of lifestyle factors that can increase cancer risk. He also highlighted the importance of advocating for increased funding for cancer research and for developing initiatives to preserve the cancer research workforce in order to accelerate the pace of scientific and clinical progress.

AT A GLANCE

Attendees talk to potential employers at the AACR Cancer and Biomedical Research Career Fair during the AACR Annual Meeting 2017.

21,800

People attended the meeting. The Annual Meeting 2017 was the largest in the history of the AACR.

71

Countries were represented at the meeting.

6,396

Proffered papers were accepted for presentation in poster sessions or minisymposia.

60

Meet-the-Expert sessions were presented at the meeting. These single-speaker sessions featured leaders in all fields of cancer research discussing their areas of expertise. The experts participated in extended question-and-answer periods, giving early-career scientists vital opportunities to expand their understanding as well as their professional networks.

7,900

Annual Meeting attendees who registered to attend the AACR Cancer and Biomedical Research Career Fair. As a destination of choice for representatives of academic, industry, and government institutions focused on cancer research, the Annual Meeting provides scientists and physicians with a unique opportunity to build their professional networks and advance their careers.

141

Clinical trials were presented, the largest number of trials ever presented at an AACR Annual Meeting. Several high-impact trials were presented in special sessions, including two trials that received significant media coverage:

- Data from a phase I trial demonstrated that treatment with the immune checkpoint inhibitor nivolumab (Opdivo) yielded durable responses in some patients with advanced non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC). The five-year survival rate for NSCLC patients in the trial was 16 percent, as opposed to 5 percent for patients receiving standard-of-care treatment.

- According to final results of a phase III trial, glioblastoma patients who wore a medical device that delivers alternating electrical fields in addition to being treated with the chemotherapeutic temozolomide had significantly improved median overall survival compared with those treated with temozolomide only. Adding the tumor-treating fields—which are thought to block cell division—to temozolomide increased the two-year survival rate to 43 percent, as compared to 27 percent for temozolomide alone.

13

Sessions organized by AACR Working Groups, including town halls, networking events, and scientific sessions. As part of their mission to foster collaboration around focused areas of cancer research, the Working Groups organize these sessions to create communities of interest within the broader scope of the Annual Meeting.

247

Scientific sessions highlighted the latest breakthroughs in basic, translational, and clinical cancer research—including 45 major symposia, five plenary sessions, and 32 educational sessions. While providing a forum for cutting-edge science, the Annual Meeting program also explored larger questions in the field. For example, in a special session titled "Are There New Hallmarks of Cancer?," Douglas Hanahan and Robert A. Weinberg (*below*) updated their seminal work on carcinogenesis by proposing additional enabling characteristics that distinguish cancer cells from normal cells.

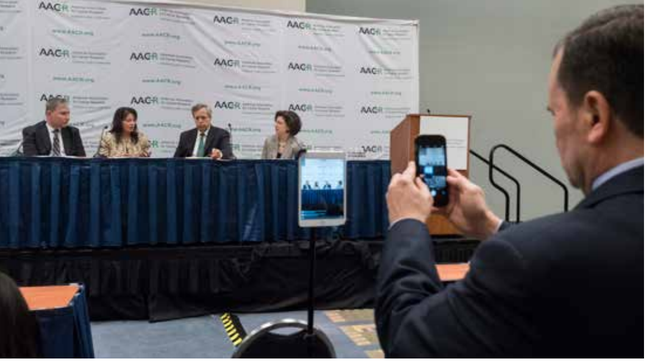
NAJJIA N. MAHMOUD, MD
AACR Scholar-in-Training Award Recipient (1999)

Since 1986, the AACR Annual Meeting Scholar-in-Training Award program has provided more than 4,400 grants to recognize outstanding young investigators presenting meritorious proffered papers at the AACR Annual Meeting. These grants enable early-career scientists to attend the Annual Meeting, share their work with the cancer community, and network with senior researchers. With support and inspiration from the AACR, Scholars-in-Training sustain the pipeline of cancer scientists and clinicians.

Najjia N. Mahmoud, MD, was named an AACR Scholar-in-Training in 1999. An AACR member since 1998, Dr. Mahmoud is now the Chief of the Division of Colon and Rectal Surgery at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania and a member of the Cancer Control and Prevention Group at Abramson Cancer Center. Her Division and its members are committed to the education and training of fellows, residents, and medical students and to unbiased participation in clinical and basic research projects in colon and rectal surgery as well as colon and rectal diseases—including cancer.

"As a surgical resident doing basic science research on the effects of nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs and compounds on *Apc* mediated gastrointestinal tumors in mice, I was enormously grateful to the AACR for providing me and the lab with funding to continue our promising work. At the time, I was excited to advance to the next project, test the next compound, and report results. We could clearly see how what we were doing was extremely translational. Over time, it has become clear to me that the work I did, funded by AACR, was instrumental in helping me understand how to conduct and participate in translational research. It formed the basis for all my subsequent work in the laboratory, in clinical cooperative groups, as a participant on national grant review committees, with my own trials, and here at the University of Pennsylvania Health System as a member of the Abramson Cancer Center and a leader of both the Division of Colon and Rectal Surgery as well as the Gastrointestinal Cancer Committee.

As a surgeon and clinical scientist, I see and treat hundreds of colorectal cancer patients per year. I get to participate in the treatment of this population both as a clinician and researcher, and lead a great Division with faculty devoted to doing the same. The impact of my AACR grant has echoed through the years, its effect amplifying and becoming more meaningful and profound to me as time goes on. It provided a solid foundation for all of my subsequent development. You never know where strategic funding of a good project will take you. I remain grateful to the AACR for what I feel was an investment in me, my career, and the health of all those whom I am lucky enough to care for."



Reporters learned about the latest developments in cancer research at three press conferences during the AACR Annual Meeting 2017.

MEDIA COVERAGE

The AACR Annual Meeting 2017 generated global interest, as the innovative cancer science presented in Washington produced a significant amount of news coverage and social media activity.

17
News releases were distributed.

200
Reporters registered to cover the meeting.

2,165
Media mentions were generated.

45,862
People viewed the AACR's Facebook Live broadcasts during the Annual Meeting. The AACR conducted four live broadcasts during the meeting, including a discussion of important science presented at the meeting. 2017-2018 AACR President Michael A. Caligiuri, MD, moderated the discussion, which featured Annual Meeting Program Chair Kornelia Polyak, MD, PhD, as well as press conference moderators Suzanne Topalian, MD, and Louis M. Weiner, MD.

7,928
Unique users joined the Annual Meeting conversation on Twitter.

10,900
People viewed Snapchat posts that used the Annual Meeting geofilter graphic. With the launch of its account in Washington, the AACR became the first cancer research organization to use Snapchat at its Annual Meeting. In addition to offering a conference geofilter and posting candid photos from the meeting, the AACR partnered with member and social media advocate Emil Lou, MD, PhD, to interview winners of the Annual Meeting Undergraduate Poster Competition using the organization's Snapchat account.

34,212
Tweets mentioned the #AACR17 hashtag.

AMONG THE MANY NEWS ORGANIZATIONS COVERING THE ANNUAL MEETING WERE THE FOLLOWING MAJOR MEDIA OUTLETS:

The Washington Post
THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.
TIME
REUTERS
Forbes
AP
CNN
STAT

AACR JOURNALS: A NEW CENTURY OF HIGH-IMPACT PUBLICATION

In 1916, the AACR launched *The Journal of Cancer Research*, the first cancer journal published in English. This first AACR publication was renamed in 1931 as *The American Journal of Cancer*, which was the organization's official journal for ten years. In 1941, the AACR relaunched the journal as *Cancer Research*, which has remained in continuous publication to this day.

In the 76 years since its launch, *Cancer Research* has become one of the most frequently cited cancer journals in the world, and the AACR's scientific publishing program has expanded to eight journals to cover the full spectrum of basic, translational, clinical, and epidemiological research. With the guidance of their editorial boards and the leadership from their editors-in-chief, AACR journals serve the organization's mission by providing forums for the most innovative cancer science.

NEW EDITORIAL LEADERSHIP FOR *CLINICAL CANCER RESEARCH*

In January 2017, the AACR appointed Keith T. Flaherty, MD, as the new editor-in-chief of *Clinical Cancer Research*, the journal of clinical and translational cancer research that has provided a critical bridge between the laboratory and the clinic for more than twenty years. A world-renowned physician-scientist, Flaherty pioneered the development of targeted therapies matched to the genetic characteristics of a patient's tumor and led clinical trials to evaluate some of these therapies. He assumed the editor-in-chief position of *Clinical Cancer Research* after six years as a senior editor of the journal's melanoma section, and his considerable expertise will inform his leadership of the journal in its third decade of publication.

George C. Prendergast, PhD, editor-in-chief of Cancer Research, *interacts with attendees during his Meet the Editor session at the AACR Annual Meeting 2017. During his term as editor-in-chief, Dr. Prendergast expanded the focus of* Cancer Research *to reflect the dramatic changes in cancer science.*

ACKNOWLEDGING OUTSTANDING EDITORIAL SERVICE: GEORGE C. PRENDERGAST, PHD

The AACR recognizes the achievements of George C. Prendergast, PhD, whose term of service as editor-in-chief of *Cancer Research* ended in 2017. His dedication and leadership have benefited the AACR publishing program as well as the cancer research community:

As the most comprehensive journal in the AACR's scientific publishing program, *Cancer Research* represents the entire field of cancer science, publishing articles of broad interest and high impact in basic, translational, and clinical research. However, the field has changed rapidly over the past eight years; during his term as editor-in-chief, Dr. Prendergast had the vision to recognize these changes and expand the journal's focus to highlight them. Under his editorial leadership, *Cancer Research* integrated cancer science with peripheral fields such as physics and re-emerging fields like immunology—inspiring investigators to take new approaches to the cancer problem and making the journal as dynamic as the areas it covers.

Under Dr. Prendergast's leadership, *Cancer Research* achieved its highest-ever Impact Factor ranking (JCR; Clarivate Analytics, 2017) and continued to be one of the most frequently cited cancer journals in the world. He achieved this ranking by attracting and publishing high-impact studies; the three most-cited articles in the journal during his tenure are listed below.

- Projecting Cancer Incidence and Deaths to 2030: The Unexpected Burden of Thyroid, Liver, and Pancreas Cancers in the United States
  [Rahib et al., June 2014]
- Long Noncoding RNA HOTAIR Regulates Polycomb-Dependent Chromatin Modification and Is Associated with Poor Prognosis in Colorectal Cancers
  [Kogo et al., October 2011]
- Noncoding RNA MALAT1 Is a Critical Regulator of the Metastasis Phenotype of Lung Cancer Cells
  [Gutschner et al., February 2013]

AACR JOURNAL LAUNCH DATES	
1916	*The Journal of Cancer Research* (Inaugural Editor: Richard P. Weil)
1931	*The American Journal of Cancer* (Inaugural Editor: Francis Carter Wood)
1941	*Cancer Research* (Inaugural Editor: James B. Murphy)
1990	*Cell Growth & Differentiation* (Inaugural Editor: George F. Vande Woude, PhD, FAACR)
1991	*Cancer Epidemiology, Biomarkers & Prevention* (Inaugural Editor: Pelayo Correa, MD)
1995	*Clinical Cancer Research* (Inaugural Editor: John Mendelsohn, MD, FAACR)
2001	*Molecular Cancer Therapeutics* (Inaugural Editor: Daniel D. Von Hoff, MD, FAACR)
2002	*Molecular Cancer Research* (Inaugural Editor: Michael B. Kastan, MD, PhD, FAACR; formerly Cell Growth & Differentiation)
2008	*Cancer Prevention Research* (Inaugural Editor: Scott Lippman, MD)
2011	*Cancer Discovery* (Inaugural Editors: Lewis C. Cantley, PhD, FAACR, and José Baselga, MD, PhD, FAACR)
2013	*Cancer Immunology Research* (Inaugural Editor: Glenn Dranoff, MD)

BY THE NUMBERS

15.5%

Of citations in the Oncology category were garnered by AACR journals, according to the *2016 Journal Citation Report*® (Clarivate Analytics, 2017). The eight AACR journals represent 3.7% of the 217 journals in the category.

4

AACR journals ranked in the top 10% in the Oncology category with regard to Impact Factor, according to the *Journal Citation Report* released in July 2017. *Cancer Discovery* ranked 7th out of all oncology journals, followed by *Clinical Cancer Research* (12th), *Cancer Research* (15th), and *Cancer Immunology Research* (17th).

280,000

Citations to AACR journals were made in 2016, according to the *Journal Citation Report* released in July 2017.

26 million

Full-text views of AACR journal articles were recorded in 2017.

At the AACR Journals Reception during the Annual Meeting, AACR Publications Committee chair Victor Velculescu, MD, PhD (fifth from left) *acknowledges the authors of the most-cited papers published in AACR journals in 2015.*

EDITORS-IN-CHIEF

The AACR thanks its editors-in-chief for their hard work and stewardship of its scientific publishing program.

CANCER DISCOVERY

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UC San Diego Moores Cancer Center
San Diego, California

FOSTERING CANCER RESEARCH WORLDWIDE

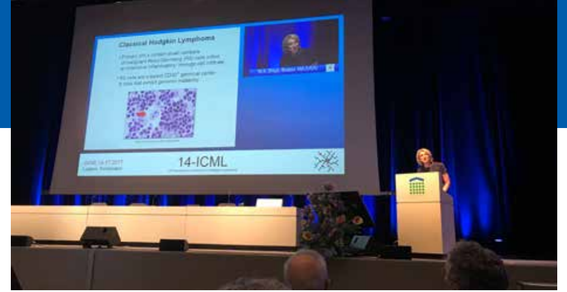
In September 1989, the AACR organized its first meeting outside North America—a conference on The Cell Membrane and Cell Signals as Targets in Cancer Chemotherapy held at Queens' College, Cambridge University, United Kingdom. Jointly sponsored with the European Organisation for Research and Treatment of Cancer (EORTC) and the British Association for Cancer Research (BACR), the goal of the conference was to accelerate the development of new cancer treatments by bringing together scientists, chemists, pharmacologists, experimental chemotherapists, and clinicians to identify and exploit new targets.

Since that first international meeting, the AACR has continued and expanded its global outreach, driving innovative cancer science through collaborations with scientific organizations around the world. In 2017, that outreach included the launch of AACR conferences on two new continents.

SOUTH AFRICA: NEW FRONTIERS IN CANCER RESEARCH CONFERENCE

In January, more than 150 participants joined cochairs Peter A. Jones, PhD, DSc, FAACR, and Frank McCormick, PhD, FRS, FAACR (*right*), in Cape Town for the first AACR conference held in Africa. The attendees learned about the latest basic, translational, and clinical cancer research, with a special focus on cancers with a high rate of incidence in the region. Recognizing that infrastructure is as critical as innovation in attacking the cancer problem, the AACR worked with the African Organisation for Research and Training in Cancer (AORTIC) to organize a pre-conference workshop on "Capacity Building for Cancer Research," which addressed the challenges facing basic and clinical researchers in Africa.

Left to right: Conference cochair Peter A. Jones, PhD, DSc, FAACR; AACR CEO Margaret Foti, PhD, MD (hc); AACR Past President Nancy E. Davidson, MD, FAACR; and cochair Frank McCormick, PhD, FRS, DSc (hon), FAACR, welcome attendees to the 2017 AACR International Conference on New Frontiers in Cancer Research, held in Cape Town, South Africa.



BRAZIL: AACR INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON TRANSLATIONAL CANCER MEDICINE

Nearly 400 participants gathered in São Paulo in May for the first AACR conference held in Latin America, which was organized in cooperation with the Latin American Cooperative Oncology Group (LACOG). Conference cochairs Carlos L. Arteaga, MD, FAACR (*above right*), and Carlos Gil M. Ferreira, MD, PhD (*above left*), developed a program that bridged the gap between basic and clinical research, particularly for the cancers that are most prevalent in Latin America.

CHINA: NEW HORIZONS IN CANCER RESEARCH CONFERENCE

2016-2017 AACR President Nancy Davidson, MD, FAACR, and 2017 Annual Meeting Program Chair Kornelia Polyak, MD, PhD, worked with conference cochairs Chi Van Dang, MD, PhD (*above right*), and Hongyang Wang, MD, PhD, to bring the best of the AACR Annual Meeting to Shanghai for the fourth edition of this landmark conference. More than 500 participants attended the conference in November, which brought international speakers and local experts together to share the latest cutting-edge research.

JOINT CONFERENCES

The AACR worked with seven international scientific organizations in 2017 to develop the following joint conferences and workshops:

EIGHTEENTH ECCO-AACR-EORTC-ESMO WORKSHOP ON METHODS IN CLINICAL CANCER RESEARCH

Zeist, The Netherlands, June 2017

SECOND EACR-AACR-SIC SPECIAL CONFERENCE: THE CHALLENGES OF OPTIMIZING IMMUNO- AND TARGETED THERAPIES—FROM CANCER BIOLOGY TO THE CLINIC

Florence, Italy, June 2017

THIRD CRI-CIMT-EATI-AACR INTERNATIONAL CANCER IMMUNOTHERAPY CONFERENCE

Mainz/Frankfurt, Germany, September 2017

OTHER INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATIONS

The AACR worked with four additional organizations to sponsor sessions at or provide program support for the following conferences:

AACR ANNUAL MEETING

Washington, D.C., April 2017
The AACR partnered with the Japanese Cancer Association (JCA) to organize a Joint Symposium on "Cancer Metabolomics," and with the Chinese Society of Clinical Oncology (CSCO) to develop a Joint Symposium on "Tumor Microenvironment."

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON MALIGNANT LYMPHOMA

Lugano, Switzerland, June 2017
The AACR worked with the ICML to develop three highlights of the scientific program:

- In collaboration with the European School of Oncology and the ICML, the AACR organized a pre-conference workshop on "Design of Clinical Trials: Biological and Clinical Endpoints in the Design of Future Clinical Trials."
- AACR CEO Margaret Foti, PhD, MD (hc), and ICML President Franco Cavalli, MD, co-chaired a Joint Session on "Cancer Immunotherapy."
- The AACR sponsored the inaugural Gianni Bonadonna Memorial Lecture. Named in honor of Gianni Bonadonna, MD, an AACR member and co-founder of ICML, the lecture featured Margaret A. Shipp, MD (*above*), discussing "Genetic signatures and targetable pathways in lymphoid malignancies."

ASIA PACIFIC CANCER CONFERENCE

Seoul, Korea, June 2017
AACR CEO Margaret Foti, PhD, MD (hc), delivered a Keynote Lecture on "The global cancer research landscape: Translating discoveries into cures."

CSCO ANNUAL MEETING

Xiamen, China, September 2017
The AACR partnered with CSCO to develop a Joint Symposium on "Microenvironment and Cancer Immunotherapy."

JCA ANNUAL MEETING

Yokohama, Japan, September 2017
The AACR partnered with JCA to develop a Joint Symposium on "Tumor Immune Microenvironment and Novel Frameworks toward Precision Medicine."

INAUGURAL AACR CHINA INDUSTRY ROUNDTABLE

Extending its mission to support collaboration, in May the AACR hosted a meeting of more than twenty Chinese pharma, biotech, diagnostics, and contract research companies in Shanghai. These industry leaders discussed the challenges and opportunities in cancer research in China and identified areas of focus for which the AACR could develop impactful programs and initiatives in the region.

FIRST AACR CONFERENCE ON EACH CONTINENT

North America	1907 (First AACR meeting; New York, New York)
Europe	1989 (AACR-BACR-EORTC Joint Conference on The Cell Membrane and Cell Signals as Targets in Cancer Chemotherapy; Cambridge, England)
Asia	1994 (AACR-Academia Sinica Joint Conference on Modern Developments in Cancer Therapeutics; Taipei, Taiwan)
Australia	1997 (AACR-Lorne Cancer Conference Joint Conference on Growth Factors, Signaling, and Cancer; Lorne, Victoria, Australia)
Africa	2017 (AACR International Conference on New Frontiers in Cancer Research; Cape Town, South Africa)
South America	2017 (AACR International Conference on Translational Cancer Medicine; São Paulo, Brazil)

AACR CEO Margaret Foti, PhD, MD (hc), and 2017-2018 AACR President Michael Caligiuri, MD, present the Fellows of the AACR medal to 2017 inductee (and 2016-2017 AACR President) Nancy E. Davidson, MD.

FELLOWS OF THE AACR ACADEMY: CHARTING THE FUTURE OF CANCER RESEARCH

Established in 2013, the AACR Academy recognizes and honors distinguished scientists whose major scientific contributions have propelled significant innovation and progress against cancer. While election as a Fellow of the AACR Academy (FAACR) highlights past and current accomplishments, the groundbreaking scientists who earn this honor continue to chart the future of cancer research. AACR Fellows provide advice and counsel to the organization's leadership on critical scientific issues, using their combined expertise to advance the AACR's mission.

CLASS OF 2017 INDUCTION

At a ceremony on the evening before the Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C., the 2017 class of Fellows of the AACR Academy was formally inducted. The class included (*left to right*): Carl H. June, MD; Michael B. Kastan, MD, PhD; Riccardo Dalla-Favera, MD; Nancy E. Davidson, MD; Karen H. Vousden, PhD; Vishva M. Dixit, MD; and Michael Karin, PhD.

AACR FELLOWS CLASS OF 2017

SIR ADRIAN P. BIRD, PHD, FAACR
Welcome Trust Centre for Cell Biology
University of Edinburgh
Edinburgh, Scotland

For characterizing CpG islands and highlighting the role of DNA methylation in the regulation of gene expression and disease onset

NANCY E. DAVIDSON, MD, FAACR
Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center
Seattle Cancer Care Alliance
University of Washington
Seattle, Washington

For defining key molecular drivers of breast carcinogenesis and helping to establish new therapeutic approaches for the treatment of breast cancer

CARL H. JUNE, MD, FAACR
University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine
Abramson Cancer Center
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

For designing chimeric antigen receptor T cell immunotherapy for the treatment of refractory and relapsed chronic lymphocytic leukemia

TOMAS LINDAHL, MD, FRS, FAACR
Francis Crick Institute
London, England

For advancing the understanding of DNA damage repair through his discovery of the process of base excision repair and for isolating and characterizing several key components of the DNA repair machinery

EMMANUELLE CHARPENTIER, PHD, FAACR
Max Planck Institute for Infection Biology
Berlin, Germany
Umeå University
Umeå, Sweden

For elucidating the molecular mechanisms governing CRISPR-mediated viral immunity and for contributions to developing the CRISPR-Cas9 gene editing system

VISHVA M. DIXIT, MD, FAACR
Genentech, Inc.
South San Francisco, California

For uncovering the role of caspases and associated signaling molecules in death receptor-mediated cell death and immune responses

MICHAEL KARIN, PHD, FAACR
University of California, San Diego
La Jolla, California

For categorizing how environmental stress, hormones, inflammation, and obesity activate key signaling pathways involved in cancer

PAUL L. MODRICH, PHD, FAACR
Duke University Medical Center
Durham, North Carolina

For clarifying the mechanisms of DNA mismatch repair and demonstrating its role in the onset of various cancers including hereditary nonpolyposis colon cancer

RICCARDO DALLA-FAVERA, MD, FAACR
Institute for Cancer Genetics
Columbia University
New York, New York

For demonstrating the significance of proto-oncogenes and select genetic abnormalities including chromosomal translocations in lymphomagenesis

JENNIFER A. DOUDNA, PHD, FAACR
University of California, Berkeley
Berkeley, California

For revealing bacterial mechanisms of viral immunity and for developing the CRISPR-Cas9 system used to manipulate genomic DNA

MICHAEL B. KASTAN, MD, PHD, FAACR
Duke Cancer Institute
Duke University School of Medicine
Durham, North Carolina

For ascertaining key steps of the DNA damage response pathway, deciphering mechanisms of p53-mediated cell cycle inhibition, and for defining the role of ATM in modulating mitochondrial function, insulin signaling, and cellular metabolism

KAREN H. VOUSDEN, PHD, FAACR
The Crick Institute
Cancer Research UK
London, England

For describing various p53 regulatory mechanisms involved in carcinogenesis, including MDM2 inhibition of p53 function and the role of PUMA in p53-mediated cell death

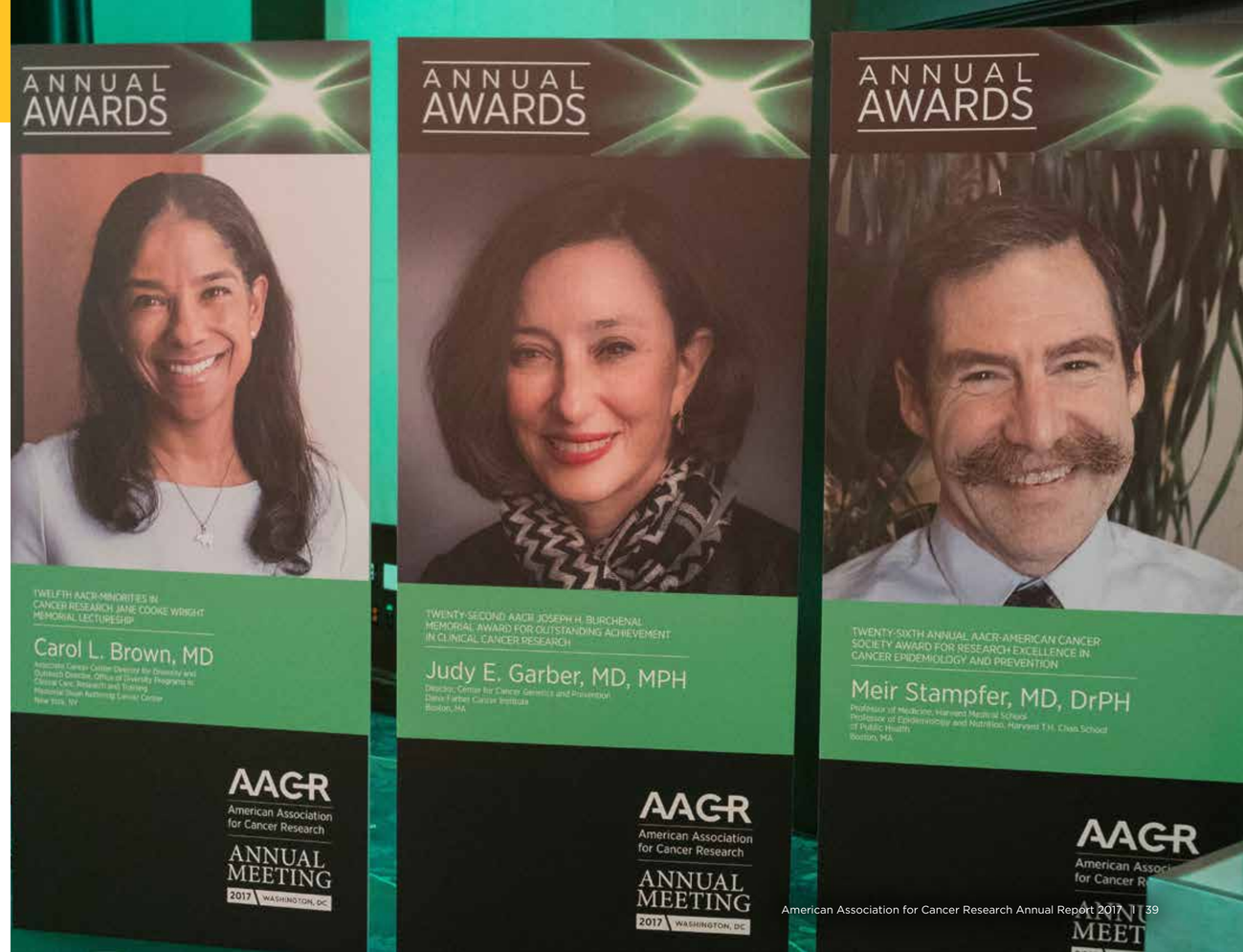
SCIENTIFIC ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

In 1961, the AACR established its first scientific award, partnering with Eli Lilly and Company to present the AACR G.H.A. Clowes Memorial Award. Named for G.H.A. Clowes, a founding member of the AACR and a past research director at Eli Lilly and Company, the award recognized an individual scientist for outstanding recent accomplishments in the field of basic cancer research. More than fifty years later, the AACR continues to recognize and reward excellence in all areas of cancer science.

HONORING SCIENTIFIC ACHIEVEMENT

The 2017 AACR Scientific Achievement Awards and Lectureships highlighted exceptional scientists at several points along the career continuum. For example, the inaugural AACR-Waun Ki Hong Award for Outstanding Achievement in Cancer Research—named in honor of Waun Ki Hong, MD, FAACR, an AACR Past President—was established to recognize the outstanding research of investigators who are 51 years of age or younger. The first recipient of the award, Roger S. Lo, MD, PhD, was honored for his contributions toward identifying the molecular underpinnings of metastatic melanoma and its response to therapy.

Early recognition of promising scientists and support throughout their careers fosters breakthrough discoveries that can shift scientific paradigms and ultimately improve the lives of cancer patients. One example of a scientist whose career changed the field is Mina Bissell, PhD, FAACR, recipient of the 2017 AACR Award for Lifetime Achievement in Cancer Research. Dr. Bissell, who was honored for her seminal discoveries in cell biology that launched the field of tumor microenvironment research, received the AACR G.H.A. Clowes Award in 1999—an acknowledgment of a burgeoning career that eventually transformed the field's understanding of cancer initiation and progression.



2017 AWARD RECIPIENTS AND LECTURERS

Fifty-Seventh Annual AACR G.H.A. Clowes Memorial Award

RICCARDO DALLA-FAVERA, MD, FAACR

Institute for Cancer Genetics
Columbia University
New York, New York

Twentieth Pezcoller Foundation-AACR International Award for Cancer Research

DAVID M. LIVINGSTON, MD, FAACR

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
Boston, Massachusetts

Thirteenth Annual AACR-Irving Weinstein Foundation Distinguished Lecture

LEONARD I. ZON, MD

Harvard Medical School
Boston, Massachusetts

Eleventh Annual AACR Award for Outstanding Achievement in Chemistry in Cancer Research

CRAIG M. CREWS, PHD

Yale University
New Haven, Connecticut

Twenty-Sixth Annual AACR-American Cancer Society Award for Research Excellence in Cancer Epidemiology and Prevention

MEIR STAMPFER, MD, DRPH

Harvard Medical School
Boston, Massachusetts

Twentieth Annual AACR-Women in Cancer Research Charlotte Friend Memorial Lectureship

ANNE-LISE BØRRESEN-DALE, PHD, MD (HC)

Oslo University Hospital Institute for Cancer Research
Oslo, Norway

Twelfth Annual AACR-Minorities in Cancer Research Jane Cooke Wright Memorial Lectureship

CAROL L. BROWN, MD

Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center
New York, New York

Eleventh Annual AACR Princess Takamatsu Memorial Lectureship

LOUIS M. STAUDT, MD, PHD

National Cancer Institute
Bethesda, Maryland

Twenty-Second Annual AACR-Joseph H. Burchenal Memorial Award for Outstanding Achievement in Clinical Cancer Research

JUDY E. GARBER, MD, MPH, FAACR

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
Harvard Medical School
Boston, Massachusetts

Fourteenth Annual AACR Award for Lifetime Achievement in Cancer Research

MINA J. BISSELL, PHD, FAACR

Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory
Berkeley, California

Eleventh Annual AACR-Margaret Foti Award for Leadership and Extraordinary Achievements in Cancer Research

CARLO M. CROCE, MD, FAACR

Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center
Columbus, Ohio

Ninth Annual AACR Outstanding Investigator Award for Breast Cancer Research, funded by Susan G. Komen®

NICHOLAS C. TURNER, PHD, FRCP

Royal Marsden Hospital Institute of Cancer Research
London, England

Ninth Annual AACR Distinguished Lectureship in Breast Cancer Research

JEFFREY M. ROSEN, PHD

Baylor College of Medicine
Houston, Texas

Eighth Annual AACR Distinguished Lecture on the Science of Cancer Health Disparities, funded by Susan G. Komen®

JULIE R. PALMER, SCD

Boston University School of Public Health
Boston Medical Center Cancer Center
Boston, Massachusetts

Fifth Annual AACR-CRI Lloyd J. Old Award in Cancer Immunology

OLIVERA (OLJA) J. FINN, PHD

University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine
University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Inaugural AACR-Waun Ki Hong Award for Outstanding Achievement In Cancer Research

ROGER S. LO, MD, PHD

Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center
David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA
Los Angeles, California

Eleventh Annual AACR Team Science Award

THE INTERNATIONAL LIQUID BIOPSY INITIATIVE TEAM

LUIS A. DIAZ, JR., MD ***Team Leader***
Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center
New York, New York

NISHANT AGRAWAL, MD
University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine
Chicago, Illinois

CHETAN BETTEGOWDA, MD, PHD
Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine
Baltimore, Maryland

FRANK DIEHL, PHD
Sysmex Inostics
Hamburg, Germany

PETER GIBBS, MD
Royal Melbourne Hospital
Parkville, Victoria, Australia

STANLEY R. HAMILTON, MD
University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center
Houston, Texas

RALPH H. HRUBAN, MD
Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine
Baltimore, Maryland

HARTMUT H. JUHL, MD, PHD
Indivumed
Hamburg, Germany

ISAAC A. KINDE, MD, PHD
PapGene, Inc.
Baltimore, Maryland

KENNETH W. KINZLER, PHD, FAACR
Johns Hopkins Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center
Baltimore, Maryland

MARTIN A. NOWAK, PHD
Harvard University
Cambridge, Massachusetts

NICKOLAS PAPADOPOULOS, PHD
Johns Hopkins Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center
Baltimore, Maryland

DAVID SIDRANSKY, MD
Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions
Baltimore, Maryland

JEANNE TIE, MD
The Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research
Parkville, Victoria, Australia

VICTOR E. VELCULESCU, MD, PHD
Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine
Baltimore, Maryland

BERT VOGELSTEIN, MD, FAACR
Johns Hopkins Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center
Baltimore, Maryland

SCIENTIFIC LEADERSHIP: CATALYZING COLLABORATIONS

Progress against cancer requires the efforts of individuals and organizations on a large scale. The AACR acts as a catalyst for collaboration, identifying areas of critical need and bringing together scientists, clinicians, survivors, patients, advocates, and regulators to address them.

Attendees at the 43rd AACR Annual Meeting, April 11-13, 1952, New York, New York (left).

AACR PROJECT GENIE

As the founding organization and leader of Project GENIE (Genomics Evidence Neoplasia Information Exchange)—a consortium of eight international institutions committed to aggregating their genomic data and linking it to clinical outcomes to advance cancer treatment—the AACR has overseen rapid progress in 2017 toward the project's goal of using precision medicine to benefit cancer patients. In January, the project team publicly released its first dataset, consisting of nearly 19,000 tumor sequences and associated limited clinical data covering 59 major cancer types. In November, another 7,900 tumor sequences were added to the public domain registry, and another release planned for January 2018 will expand the number of tumor sequences in the public domain to 39,600. While the tumor types with the largest cohorts in the registry are non-small cell lung cancer, breast, and colorectal, these data releases significantly increased the cohorts for glioma and melanoma, thereby expanding the range of clinical questions that can be answered by the dataset.

The expansion of the AACR Project GENIE registry was accompanied by an acceleration of activity in 2017. Consortium members discussed the initial data release at a symposium on "Pan-cancer Genomic Analysis" at the AACR Annual Meeting 2017 in April, and a landscape analysis for the project was published in the August issue of the AACR journal *Cancer Discovery*. The registry has already begun yielding results, as two sponsored clinical studies were completed by the end of the year and are scheduled for presentation and publication in 2018. The consortium continues to grow with the dataset, as a total of 22 international institutions submitted applications to join the project in 2017. Led by the AACR, consortium members approved the addition of ten new participating national and international institutions, with additional participants expected to join by the end of 2018. As Project GENIE continues to scale up under the AACR's leadership, it moves closer to delivering on the promise of precision medicine for all cancer patients.

Members from each AACR Project GENIE participating center and strategic partners gathered at the AACR offices in July 2017 for their biannual summit.

AACR American Association for Cancer Research® FINDING CURES TOGETHER®

PROJECTGENIE® Genomics Evidence Neoplasia Information Exchange

JOINT STATEMENT ON CANCER HEALTH DISPARITIES

In 2014, the AACR worked with the American Cancer Society (ACS), the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO), and the National Cancer Institute (NCI) to form a think tank to address the disparities in health care access and outcomes that exist within many populations. The participants identified the lack of a shared research agenda in the disparities research community as a major obstacle to the reduction of cancer disparities at the population level. To overcome this obstacle, the think tank members committed to developing a joint statement that would summarize the current state of disparities research, identify research priorities to advance the field, and recommend the most effective methodologies to achieve those priorities.

In July 2017, the efforts of the think tank came to fruition with the publication of joint statement on "Charting the Future of Cancer Health Disparities Research." The goal of the statement—which was published in the AACR journal *Cancer Research* and simultaneously published in *CA: A Cancer Journal for Clinicians*, in the *Journal of Clinical Oncology*, and on cancer.gov—was to "promote cooperation among investigators in all areas of the cancer health disparities research community, to ensure that cancer research benefits all populations and patients regardless of race, ethnicity, age, gender identity, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status, or the communities in which they live."

AACR PUBLISHES FIRST SET OF SCREENING RECOMMENDATIONS EMERGING FROM CHILDHOOD CANCER PREDISPOSITION WORKSHOP

The primary goal of the AACR Pediatric Cancer Working Group's Childhood Cancer Predisposition Workshop, held in October 2016, was to provide pediatric clinicians with standard approaches to the surveillance of children affected by cancer predisposition syndromes. The workshop participants achieved that goal in 2017 with the publication of the first-ever consensus screening recommendations for the 50 most common syndromes that predispose children to the development of cancer in their first 20 years of life. The recommendations were published in a series of 18 articles in the AACR journal *Clinical Cancer Research* and were made freely available to provide clinicians with a detailed roadmap to prevent, intercept, and cure pediatric cancers.

SCIENTIFIC WORKING GROUPS: BUILDING COMMUNITY, PROMOTING PROGRESS

In 1999, the AACR Board of Directors established the Molecular Epidemiology Group (MEG), the organization's first scientific working group. The mission of MEG was to foster and strengthen team-based, trans-disciplinary research in order to develop a more integrated understanding of cancer etiology and outcomes in human populations.

Over the next two decades, the AACR established several more working groups to promote progress in fundamental or emerging areas of cancer research. These working groups create communities of interest around their areas of inquiry, building working relationships and fostering collaboration in each field.

CHEMISTRY IN CANCER RESEARCH (CICR): INTERNATIONAL OUTREACH

The mission of the CICR Working Group is to advocate the critical role of chemistry in the treatment of cancer and to increase the understanding of chemistry among cancer researchers. The group's pursuit of this mission reached across the globe in November 2017, as the CICR leadership organized its first Town Hall meeting at the New Horizons in Cancer Research conference in Shanghai, China. In addition to providing a focused networking opportunity for attendees interested in cancer chemistry, the session included two chemistry-focused lectures from scientists working in the pharmaceutical and contract research industries.

PEDIATRIC CANCER WORKING GROUP (PCWG): SPECIAL CONFERENCE

PCWG provides a forum for communication and collaboration among basic, clinical, and translational researchers in academia, industry, and government on all aspects of pediatric cancer research. In pursuit of that goal, PCWG members worked with the AACR Program Development staff to develop a special conference on "Pediatric Cancer Research: From Basic Science to the Clinic." Held in December, the meeting was the third special conference since 2013 to be organized in partnership with PCWG. Nada Jabado, MD, PhD—a member of the PCWG Steering Committee—and fellow cochairs Peter C. Adamson, MD, and Charles W. M. Roberts, MD, PhD, developed a program that featured cutting-edge research in epigenetics, genomics and clinical trials, immunotherapy, pediatric cancer modeling, and targeted therapeutics.

Stefani Spranger, PhD, meets members of the Cancer Immunology (CIMM) and Tumor Microenvironment (TME) working groups following her presentation on "Impacts of tumor cell-intrinsic signaling on the induction and recruitment of antitumor effector T cells" at the Joint CIMM/TME Working Groups Evening Scientific Session at the AACR Annual Meeting 2017.

Early-career scientists meet with Abigail Soyombo, PhD, MBA, a Program Director in the Diversity Training Branch of the NCI's Center to Reduce Cancer Health Disparities, during a networking breakfast at the 10th AACR Conference on The Science of Cancer Health Disparities in Racial/Ethnic Minorities and the Medically Underserved, held in September 2017.

SCIENCE EDUCATION, CAREER DEVELOPMENT, AND CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION

In 1993, the AACR established the Science Education Committee (later renamed the Career Development Committee) to recruit future generations of cancer researchers through outreach to undergraduate and high school students. The committee launched its first initiative, the Special Program for High School Students, at the AACR Annual Meeting in 1996. That next year, the committee's outreach expanded to undergraduates with the establishment of the AACR-Thomas J. Bardos Science Education Awards for Undergraduates (later renamed the AACR Undergraduate Scholar Awards).

Nearly twenty-five years later, the AACR continues to foster the education and career development of the next generation of cancer scientists—ensuring that the cancer workforce remains robust and ready to translate today's discoveries into tomorrow's treatments and cures.

AACR CANCER CAREER CLINICS

In September, in recognition of National Postdoc Appreciation Week, the AACR organized two events in its hometown of Philadelphia to help postdoctoral students prepare for the next phase of their careers. At these Cancer Career Clinics, which were held at the University of Pennsylvania and Thomas Jefferson University, AACR staff scientists worked with postdoctoral students to develop their resumes and to answer their questions about traditional and nontraditional career paths in cancer research.

20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE AACR UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLAR AWARDS

Since their launch in 1997, the AACR Undergraduate Scholar Awards have provided promising undergraduate students with the motivation and mentorship to pursue a career in cancer research. These awards enable third-year undergraduate students to attend the AACR Annual Meeting for two consecutive years, inspiring them to consider cancer science as they approach a critical decision point in their professional journey.

At the Annual Meeting, the undergraduate program included a celebration of the 20th anniversary of the undergraduate scholar awards and of the AACR's commitment to students and early-career scientists. Award recipients and mentors from previous years attended the celebration to acknowledge the program's impact on their careers and on the cancer workforce. During the ceremony, AACR CEO Margaret Foti, PhD, MD (hc), presented a special award to Past President Donald S. Coffey, PhD, FAACR (*below*), in recognition of his dedication to educating and mentoring young scientists.

STUDENT MEMBERS: EXPANDED OUTREACH

The AACR comprehensively supports the cancer workforce, educating young students about careers in science in addition to supporting undergraduates and early-career scientists. In 2017, the AACR Special Program for High School Students introduced more than 400 students to the world of cancer research. The students attended lectures to learn more about the cancer problem, and more than 45 of them presented their recent work in the largest poster competition to date. This year, the AACR's support of future researchers reached beyond high school. Middle school students in the University of Maryland-Baltimore's CURE Scholars Program—which prepares promising students for careers in health care and research—attended the Annual Meeting, participated in the poster session, and experienced the excitement of the largest comprehensive cancer research meeting in the world.

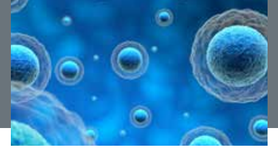
CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION

The AACR provides physician-scientists and clinicians with a wide range of opportunities to maintain their competence and incorporate new knowledge into their practice. As an ACCME-accredited provider, the AACR offered CME credit at 16 different meetings in 2017, including eight special conferences, three joint conferences, two workshops, one joint providership activity, and the Annual Meeting. AACR journals provided another educational resource, offering credit to investigators for reviewing manuscripts. A total of 3,054 researchers and clinicians claimed CME credit from the AACR in 2017, ensuring that caregivers apply the full spectrum of basic, translational, and clinical cancer science to improving the lives of their patients.

MEETINGS AND EDUCATIONAL WORKSHOPS

Moderator Rick A. Kittles, PhD (left), takes questions during a Forum on "Strategic Opportunities for Cancer Health Disparities Research" at the 10th AACR Conference on The Science of Cancer Health Disparities in Racial/Ethnic Minorities and the Medically Underserved.

The first AACR special conference, "Gene Regulation and Oncogenes," was held in 1988. Chaired by Phillip A. Sharp, PhD, FAACR—an AACR member who later received the Nobel Prize—the goal of the conference was to focus the attention of basic and clinical investigators on the relationship between the transcription of genes and cancer. In the nearly thirty years since that first focused conference, AACR meetings and educational workshops have expanded around the world and into every area of scientific inquiry.

AACR meetings and workshops continue to highlight emerging areas of cancer research, foster the detailed study of specific disease sites, and provide critical training to early-career scientists. A total of 21 meetings and seven workshops were convened in nine countries in 2017, bringing investigators together to work on critical aspects of the cancer problem. For example, the Tenth AACR Conference on The Science of Cancer Health Disparities, held in October 2017, applied innovative science to the disproportionate burden of cancer-related suffering and death on racial/ethnic minority and underserved populations. The conference gathered researchers, health care providers, survivors, patient advocates, and policy makers to identify the social, environmental, and biological determinants of cancer disparities and to develop strategies to eliminate these inequities.

As the AACR acknowledged its 110th anniversary in 2017, one of its premier meetings—the San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium (SABCS)—celebrated its 40th anniversary in December. SABCS had already built a reputation over its first three decades as leading forum for the state-of-the-art information on breast cancer research before the AACR entered into a collaboration with UT Health Science Center San Antonio and Baylor College of Medicine to co-sponsor the symposium in 2008. Over the last ten years, the AACR's breadth of expertise in basic, translational, and clinical cancer research has helped develop a balanced program that covers the full spectrum of breast cancer science and medicine.

2017 WORKSHOPS

Meeting Held outside U.S.

AACR-AORTIC WORKSHOP: CAPACITY BUILDING FOR CANCER RESEARCH IN AFRICA

January 17-18; Cape Town, South Africa
Cochairs: Timothy R. Rebbeck, PhD, Peter A. Jones, PhD, DSc, FAACR, and Frank McCormick, PhD, FRS, FAACR

ECCO-AACR-EORTC-ESMO WORKSHOP ON METHODS IN CLINICAL CANCER RESEARCH

June 17-23; Zeist, The Netherlands
Codirectors: Stefan Sleijfer, MD, PhD, Lee M. Ellis, MD, Corneel Coens, MSc, and Emiliano Calvo, MD, PhD

INTEGRATIVE MOLECULAR EPIDEMIOLOGY WORKSHOP: BRIDGING CANCER BIOLOGY AND PRECISION MEDICINE

July 10-14; Boston, Massachusetts
Director: Thomas A. Sellers, PhD, MPH
Codirectors: Peter Kraft, PhD, and Lorelei A. Mucci, ScD, MPH

MOLECULAR BIOLOGY IN CLINICAL ONCOLOGY WORKSHOP

July 23-30; Snowmass Village, Colorado
Director: Charles L. Sawyers, MD, FAACR
Codirectors: Levi A. Garraway, MD, PhD, Mark W. Geraci, MD, and Jean Y. Tang, MD, PhD

ASCO/AACR METHODS IN CLINICAL CANCER RESEARCH WORKSHOP

July 29-August 4; Vail, Colorado
Codirectors: Jyoti D. Patel, MD, Patricia M. LoRusso, DO, and Meredith M. Regan, ScD

CROUCHER SUMMER COURSE IN CANCER BIOLOGY

August 7-11, 2017; Hong Kong
Codirectors: Irene O.L. Ng, MD, PhD and Tak W. Mak, PhD, FAACR

TRANSLATIONAL CANCER RESEARCH FOR BASIC SCIENTISTS WORKSHOP

October 22-27; Boston, Massachusetts
Codirectors: George D. Demetri, MD, Susan Band Horwitz, PhD, FAACR and Pasi A. Jänne, MD, PhD

2017 SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS

PRECISION MEDICINE SERIES: OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES OF EXPLOITING SYNTHETIC LETHALITY IN CANCER

January 4-7; San Diego, California
Cochairs: René Bernards, DPhil, William C. Hahn, MD, PhD, and Louis M. Staudt, MD, PhD

AACR INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE: NEW FRONTIERS IN CANCER RESEARCH

January 18-22; Cape Town, South Africa
Cochairs: Peter A. Jones, PhD, DSc, FAACR and Frank McCormick, PhD, FRS, FAACR

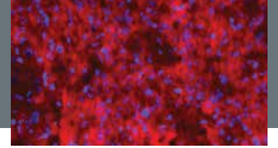
LISA A. CAREY, MD
AACR Molecular Biology in Clinical Oncology Workshop Participant (1995)

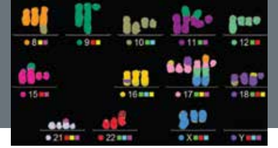
Since it was founded in 1992, the AACR Molecular Biology in Clinical Oncology Workshop has trained generations of oncologists to pursue cutting-edge cancer science to benefit patients. In addition to training in molecular biology, translational cancer research, current lab techniques, and grant writing, the workshop provides aspiring physician-scientists with valuable mentorship at a critical moment in their careers. For more than 25 years, these AACR workshop alumni have driven progress against cancer from the bench to the bedside.

One such alumna is Lisa Carey, MD, Physician-in-Chief of the N.C. Cancer Hospital, and Chief of Hematology/Oncology and Associate Director of Clinical Research at Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center in Chapel Hill, North Carolina. A participant in the 1995 workshop, Dr. Carey is one of world's leading experts in triple negative breast cancer. She led the first trial evaluating a new drug regimen for this breast cancer subtype. She also led a large phase III trial in HER2-positive breast cancer that set the stage for an international biomarker-driven trial. A founding member of the Translational Breast Cancer Research Consortium, in 2016 she became co-chair of the Breast Committee of the Alliance, an NCI-sponsored cooperative trial group, and is a longstanding member of the NCI Breast Cancer Steering Committee.

"Great clinical trials incorporate rigorous biomarker testing so we can understand how tumor heterogeneity affects treatment response. The AACR is key to providing the tools for clinical researchers to design such trials.

The AACR Molecular Biology in Clinical Oncology started me down the path toward becoming a translational oncologist. I was unusual because my formal training was in clinical trials design, not laboratory science. The workshop taught me the methods and framework required to test translational endpoints in clinical trials, and taught me the language of my scientific colleagues so that I could design trials based on solid science and testable biologic hypotheses with as much emphasis on the correlative endpoints as the clinical. This philosophy informs all of the work I do, not only at UNC but in the TBCRC and the Alliance. Proof of the importance of this principle came from our survey of the Alliance Breast Committee, which includes both academic and community oncologists. Half of the top ten clinical trials the committee members wanted us to design were based on formally testing ways to use biology and biomarkers to rationally guide treatment of breast cancer patients."





AACR ANNUAL MEETING 2017
April 1-5; Washington, DC
Program Committee Chair: Kornelia Polyak, MD, PhD

AACR-AHNS HEAD AND NECK CANCER: OPTIMIZING SURVIVAL AND QUALITY OF LIFE THROUGH BASIC, CLINICAL, AND TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH
April 23-25; San Diego, California
Cochairs: Jeffrey N. Myers, MD, PhD, Jennifer Rubin Grandis, MD, J. Silvio Gutkind, PhD, and Quynh-Thu Le, MD

ACCELERATING ANTICANCER AGENT DEVELOPMENT AND VALIDATION
May 3-5; Bethesda, Maryland
Chair: Gregory H. Reaman, MD

AACR INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE: TRANSLATIONAL CANCER MEDICINE
Held in cooperation with the Latin American Cooperative Oncology Group (LACOG)
May 4-6; São Paulo, Brazil
Cochairs: Carlos L. Arteaga, MD, FAACR and Carlos Gil M. Ferreira, MD, PhD

HEMATOLOGIC MALIGNANCIES: TRANSLATING DISCOVERIES TO NOVEL THERAPIES
May 6-9; Boston, Massachusetts
Chair: Jonathan D. Licht, MD
Cochairs: Lucy A. Godley, MD, PhD, Louis M. Staudt, MD, PhD, and Catherine J. Wu, MD

ADVANCES IN SARCOMAS: FROM BASIC SCIENCE TO CLINICAL TRANSLATION
May 16-19; Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Cochairs: Irene L. Andrulis, PhD, Ping Chi, MD, PhD, Jonathan A. Fletcher, MD, and Lee J. Helman, MD

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON MALIGNANT LYMPHOMA (ICML)
June 14-17; Lugano, Switzerland
ICML President: Franco Cavalli, MD
Chair, Local Organizing Committee: Michele Ghielmini, MD

EACR-AACR-SIC SPECIAL CONFERENCE 2017: THE CHALLENGES OF OPTIMIZING IMMUNO- AND TARGETED THERAPIES: FROM CANCER BIOLOGY TO THE CLINIC
June 24-27; Florence, Italy
Cochairs: Anton J. M. Berns, PhD, FAACR, Nancy E. Davidson, MD, FAACR, and Silvia Giordano, MD

CRI-CIMT-EATI-AACR THIRD INTERNATIONAL CANCER IMMUNOTHERAPY CONFERENCE: TRANSLATING SCIENCE INTO SURVIVAL
September 6-9; Mainz/Frankfurt, Germany
Cochairs: Stanley R. Riddell, MD, Robert D. Schreiber, PhD, Christoph Huber, MD, and Guido Kroemer, MD, PhD

ADVANCES IN MODELING CANCER IN MICE: TECHNOLOGY, BIOLOGY, AND BEYOND
September 24-27; Orlando, Florida
Cochairs: Cory Abate-Shen, PhD, Kevin M. Haigis, PhD, Katerina A. Politi, PhD, and Julien Sage, PhD

TENTH AACR CONFERENCE ON THE SCIENCE OF CANCER HEALTH DISPARITIES IN RACIAL/ETHNIC MINORITIES AND THE MEDICALLY UNDERSERVED
In association with the AACR Minorities in Cancer Research Council
September 25-28; Atlanta, Georgia
Cochairs: John M. Carethers, MD, Rick A. Kittles, PhD, Christopher I. Li, MD, PhD, and Electra D. Paskett, PhD

ADDRESSING CRITICAL QUESTIONS IN OVARIAN CANCER RESEARCH AND TREATMENT
October 1-4; Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
Cochairs: Robert C. Bast, Jr., MD, Ursula A. Matulonis, MD, and Anil K. Sood, MD

TUMOR IMMUNOLOGY AND IMMUNOTHERAPY
October 1-4; Boston, Massachusetts
Cochairs: James P. Allison, PhD, FAACR, Carl H. June, MD, FAACR, Miriam Merad, MD, PhD, and Giorgio Trinchieri, MD

ADVANCES IN BREAST CANCER RESEARCH
October 7-10; Hollywood, California
Cochairs: Myles A. Brown, MD, Tak W. Mak, PhD, FAACR, Ramon E. Parsons, MD, PhD, and Laura J. van 't Veer, PhD

AACR-NCI-EORTC INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON MOLECULAR TARGETS AND CANCER THERAPEUTICS
October 26-30; Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Scientific Committee Cochairs: Antoni Ribas, MD, PhD, James L. Gulley, MD, PhD, and Charles Swanton, MD, PhD

NEW HORIZONS IN CANCER RESEARCH
November 6-9; Shanghai, China
Cochairs: Nancy E. Davidson, MD, FAACR, Kornelia Polyak, MD, PhD, Chi Van Dang, MD, PhD, and Hongyang Wang, MD, PhD

PROSTATE CANCER: ADVANCES IN BASIC, TRANSLATIONAL, AND CLINICAL RESEARCH
December 2-5; Orlando, Florida
Cochairs: Johann S. de Bono, MBChB, PhD, Karen E. Knudsen, PhD, Peter S. Nelson, MD, and Mark A. Rubin, MD

PEDIATRIC CANCER RESEARCH: FROM BASIC SCIENCE TO THE CLINIC
In association with the AACR Pediatric Cancer Working Group
December 3-6; Atlanta, Georgia
Cochairs: Peter C. Adamson, MD, Nada Jabado, MD, PhD, and Charles W. M. Roberts, MD, PhD

SAN ANTONIO BREAST CANCER SYMPOSIUM
December 5-9; San Antonio, Texas
Codirectors: Carlos L. Arteaga, MD, FAACR, Virginia G. Kaklamani, MD, and C. Kent Osborne, MD

KENT OSBORNE, MD
Codirector, San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium

Kent Osborne, MD, is Director of the Dan L. Duncan Comprehensive Cancer Center at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, Texas. Since 1992, he has served as Codirector of the San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium, which celebrated its 40th anniversary in 2017. He has been an AACR member since 1979.

In 1977, Dr. Osborne joined the University of Texas Health Science Center (UTHSCSA) in San Antonio, Texas as an assistant professor of medicine in the Division of Medical Oncology. In 1978, his division chief, Bill McGuire, MD, and his colleague Chuck Coltman, MD, director of the Cancer Therapy and Research Center (CTRC), established a local breast cancer symposium to educate oncologists working in the city. This first San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium had fewer than 50 attendees. Dr. Osborne assumed Dr. McGuire's role as symposium codirector following McGuire's untimely death in 1992, and he has continued to serve in that capacity even after moving to Baylor College of Medicine in 1999. As codirector, Dr. Osborne initiated the discussions that resulted in the AACR's participating in the development of the symposium program starting in 2008.

"The meeting grew slowly for the first few years until McGuire and Coltman decided to change the scope and invite abstracts for oral and poster presentation. McGuire thought that it would be best for clinicians to hear about basic research and for the lab researchers to hear about clinical research and issues affecting patients. This was more than a decade before the term 'translational research' was coined by the National Cancer Institute. The symposium was also among the first to include patient advocates in meeting planning and in educational and case discussion sessions. With its new format the meeting grew rapidly, and by the time I assumed Dr. McGuire's role as codirector SABCS had become the premier breast cancer research meeting in the world.

By 2007, given the growth of the meeting and the direction cancer medicine was heading, I thought SABCS needed a change scientifically. The era of targeted therapy and genomic medicine was well underway, and it became clear that clinicians were going to have to understand the molecular pathways that were driving breast cancer in order to think about new treatment strategies. So, I spoke with Margaret Foti, PhD, MD (hc), chief executive officer of the AACR, about how the AACR could bring more science to our symposium and offer new perspectives on the structure of the meeting itself. Beginning in 2008, the SABCS evolved into a partnership between UTHSCSA/CTRC, Baylor College of Medicine, and the AACR.

I am proud to have been part of this meeting from its onset, and feel privileged to work alongside my distinguished codirectors Virginia Kaklamani, MD, and [AACR Past President] Carlos Arteaga, MD, FAACR. We all hope that the SABCS continues until we can say that breast cancer is no longer the public health problem it is today."

SUPPORTING ADVANCES IN CANCER SCIENCE

In 1993, the AACR partnered with Glaxo Wellcome Co. to develop its first grant, the AACR Gertrude B. Elion Cancer Research Award. Named for Gertrude B. Elion—Nobel Laureate, Scientist Emeritus at Glaxo Wellcome Co., and AACR Past President—this inaugural funding program identified, encouraged, and supported promising tenure-eligible junior faculty, demonstrating the AACR's commitment to fostering the pipeline of cancer researchers.

Benjamin G. Neel, MD, PhD, receives the inaugural AACR Gertrude B. Elion Award from the award's namesake, Nobel Laureate Gertrude B. Elion.

For more than 20 years, the AACR has continued to partner with generous funders to support groundbreaking basic, translational, and clinical cancer research, awarding nearly 600 grants to meritorious investigators in 11 countries around the world. In 2017, the AACR expanded the grants program to respond to changes in the field, establishing Cancer Interception Research Fellowships to foster this emerging area of research.

582

Grants have been awarded by the AACR since 1993; these grants supported research across the spectrum of cancer science, including basic (29%), translational (53%), and clinical research (18%).

47

Scientists were funded by AACR grants in 2017; these investigators received more than $6.3 million to support work in all areas of cancer research.

6

Early-career scientists were funded through the AACR's expanded Immuno-oncology grants program.

$1.8 million

Was awarded to the second class of recipients of the AACR NextGen Grants for Transformative Cancer Research—including the Breast Cancer Research Foundation-AACR NextGen Grant for Transformative Cancer Research, a new grant given in the name of AACR President Nancy E. Davidson, MD, FAACR.

$2.3 million

Was awarded to postdoctoral and clinical fellows, providing critical resources to support the career development of the next generation of cancer scientists.

$2.2 million

Was awarded through partnerships with the pharmaceutical industry, including a renewed partnership with AstraZeneca.

AACR-AWARDED GRANT AMOUNTS BY YEAR	
1993	$30,000
1995	$30,000
2000	$430,000
2005	$2,150,000
2010	$4,253.750
2015	$8,201,000
2017	$6,320,000

BENJAMIN G. NEEL, MD, PHD
Inaugural AACR Grant Recipient (1993)

From its inception, the goal of the AACR's grants program has been to identify promising young investigators at a critical time in their careers and to support their groundbreaking contributions to the cancer research community. The first AACR grant, the AACR Gertrude B. Elion Cancer Research Award, established this tradition by recognizing tenure-eligible junior faculty with the potential to lead the next generation of cancer scientists.

The first recipient of the Elion Award, Benjamin G. Neel, MD, PhD, exemplifies the value of investing in early-career scientists. An AACR member since 1990, Dr. Neel is Director of the Laura and Isaac Perlmutter Cancer Center at NYU Langone Health. While his own research focuses on the cell signaling pathways involved in cancer and developmental disease, Dr. Neel leads a team of basic, translational, and clinical scientists at Perlmutter to bring laboratory discoveries to the clinic for the benefit of cancer patients. As a member of the AACR Board of Directors (2012-2015) and Program Chair for the AACR Annual Meeting (2012), Dr. Neel has also led the organization's efforts to shape the cancer research agenda.

"The receipt of the Gertrude Elion award—and the opportunity to receive it in person from the late Dr. Elion herself—was both a great honor and a tremendous boost to my career. In addition to the financial resources it provided for my lab, the recognition of receiving the award helped attract talented graduate students and postdocs to my group. Ultimately, these individuals helped us to establish a major presence in normal and cancer cell signaling. Now, years later, I lead a prominent cancer center in New York City, and participate actively in events sponsored by the AACR."

THE AACR AND STAND UP TO CANCER: PARTNERS IN INNOVATION

The AACR proudly serves as the Scientific Partner of Stand Up To Cancer (SU2C), a program of the Entertainment Industry Foundation that supports groundbreaking translational cancer research in order to bring new therapies to patients more quickly. SU2C achieves this goal through novel funding models that promote collaborative science and encourage innovative ideas. The AACR supports these models by providing expert scientific peer review and grants administration, ensuring that SU2C's investment in research has the greatest benefit for cancer patients.

Stand Up To Cancer announced the 2017 recipients of its Innovative Research Grants at the AACR Annual Meeting 2017. Front row, left to right: Gregory L. Beatty, MD, PhD; Meenakshi G. Hegde, MD; Marcela V. Maus, MD, PhD; John T. Wilson, PhD; Jennifer A. Wargo, MD; and Marie Bleakley, MD, PhD. Back row, left to right: AACR CEO Margaret Foti, PhD, MD (hc); Bristol-Myers Squibb Vice President and Head of US Medical Julie Hambleton, MD; SU2C President and CEO Sung Poblete, PhD, RN; Michael D. Farwell, MD; Daniel A. Bachovchin, PhD; Bristol-Myers Squibb Chief Scientific Officer Thomas J. Lynch, Jr., MD; SU2C co-founder Katie Couric; David M. Barrett, MD, PhD; Rizwan Haq, MD, PhD; Entertainment Industry Foundation Chief Communications Officer Kathleen Lobb; Bristol-Myers Squibb President and Head of International Markets Christopher S. Boerner, PhD. (Paul Morigi/AP Images for Stand Up To Cancer)

DREAM TEAM APPROACHES BRING HOPE TO CHILDHOOD CANCER PATIENTS

A key component of SU2C's mission is to bring new therapies to patients in the shortest possible time. The pursuit of that mission yielded encouraging results in 2017. In July, the FDA approved a groundbreaking chimeric antigen receptor (CAR) T-cell therapy for relapsed or refractory leukemia in children and young adults, validating an approach taken by the SU2C-St. Baldrick's Foundation Pediatric Cancer Dream Team. Since its founding in 2013, the Dream Team—under the guidance of Leader John Maris, MD, and Co-leader Crystal Mackall, MD (*right*)—has played a key role in the development of CAR T therapy. The team also developed a standardized approach to the management of cytokine release syndrome (CRS)—the most serious side effect of CAR T-cell treatment—which will expand the use of this emerging treatment to more children and young adults with leukemia.

NEW RESEARCH TEAMS

One key way that SU2C accelerates the translation of discoveries to treatments is team science. By incentivizing collaboration, SU2C-funded teams bring together the greatest minds in cancer research and focus them on the critical challenges in cancer research. As the Scientific Partner of SU2C, the AACR provides scientific leadership, expert peer review, scientific oversight, and grants administration to keep these teams focused on their goals. With the assistance of its Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC), led by Nobel Laureate Phillip A. Sharp, PhD, FAACR, SU2C identified and funded the following teams in 2017:

Cancer Interception Teams. SU2C showcased its support of groundbreaking ideas in cancer treatment in 2017 by funding new research teams focused on a radical new approach known as "cancer interception." Proposed in 2001 by Elizabeth H. Blackburn, PhD, FAACR, a Nobel Laureate and AACR Past President, cancer interception involves finding cancer or pre-cancerous activity at its earliest stages, when treatment is more likely to be successful. The initial call for proposals centered on lung and pancreatic cancer, which are among the most difficult to treat because they are typically diagnosed at later stages. In response to the large number of excellent proposals received—and thanks to the generosity of SU2C's funding partners—the Scientific Advisory Committee created a total of four research teams with grants totaling $14.6 million:

- **SU2C-Lungevity Foundation-American Lung Association Lung Cancer Interception Dream Team**
  Leader: Avrum Spira, MD, MS
  Co-leader: Steven M. Dubinett, MD
- **SU2C-Lungevity Foundation-American Lung Association Lung Cancer Interception Translational Team**
  Leader: Lecia V. Sequist, MD, MPH
  Co-leader: Max Diehn, MD, PhD
- **SU2C-Lustgarten Foundation Pancreatic Cancer Interception Dream Team**
  Leader: Anirbam Maitra, MBBS
  Co-leaders: Michael G. Goggins, MD, and Scott Lippman, MD
- **SU2C-Lustgarten Foundation Pancreatic Cancer Interception Translational Team**
  Leader: David Ryan, MD
  Co-leader: Alec Kimmelman, MD, PhD

SCIENTIFIC REVIEW AND GRANTS ADMINISTRATION

Colorectal Cancer Dream Team
Leader: Luis Diaz, MD (*fifth from left*)
Co-leaders: Lewis C. Cantley, PhD, FAACR (*fourth from left*), Charles S. Fuchs, MD, MPH (*third from left*), and Zhenghe Wang, PhD (*fourth from right*)

This Dream Team will explore the potential of immunotherapy and targeted therapy to transform the treatment of colorectal cancer, one of the leading causes of cancer-related death in the United States. The team's research program will also include clinical trials to investigate drugs that could attack genetic vulnerabilities in many types of colorectal cancer tumors.

Stand Up To Cancer-Lustgarten Foundation Chimeric Antigen Receptor T Cell (CAR T) Translational Research Team
Leader: Carl June, MD, FAACR
Co-leaders: Shelley L. Berger, PhD, and E. John Wherry, PhD

The goal of this Translational Research Team is to adapt CAR T-cell therapy—which recently received FDA approval for the treatment of leukemia but which has proven less effective thus far in solid tumors—for application to pancreatic cancer. The study will include an epigenetic analysis of patients participating in phase I trials. The team leaders hope to identify the epigenetic changes that are common in the patients that respond to the treatment and in the patients that do not respond—and to use the knowledge of those patterns to identify and address the mechanisms of resistance.

SU2C CATALYST®: MORE COLLABORATION, BETTER COMBINATIONS

Launched at the AACR Annual Meeting 2016, the SU2C Catalyst® program establishes a unique collaboration between industry and academic scientists to accelerate the pace of groundbreaking translational research. The program—which is administered by the AACR—provides investigators with medicines, materials, and funding donated by pharmaceutical, biotechnology, diagnostic, and medical device companies and encourages them to develop new uses for and new combinations of those resources to benefit cancer patients.

In October, SU2C awarded the first 10 SU2C Catalyst® clinical trial projects to research teams composed of investigators from more than 30 institutions. The Charter Supporters of the program—founding collaborator Merck, Bristol-Myers Squibb Company, and Genentech—donated new pharmaceutical compounds to the teams, along with approved agents that can be investigated for other uses. The clinical trials conducted by the Catalyst program participants will explore new uses for these therapies and new combinations with products from six other participating companies. Under the direction of the team leaders, the trials will address the following types of cancer:

Merck-supported Projects

- Ovarian Team Leader: Alan D'Andrea, MD
- Lung Epigenetic Team Leader: Stephen B. Baylin, MD, FAACR
- Pancreatic Team Leader: Daniel D. Von Hoff, MD, FACP, FAACR
- Sarcoma Team Leader: David Kirsch, MD, PhD

Bristol-Myers Squibb-supported Projects

- Lung Immunotherapy Team Leader: Scott J. Antonia, MD, PhD
- Melanoma Team Leader: Antoni Ribas, MD, PhD
- Multiple Myeloma Team Leader: Irene M. Ghobrial, MD
- Pediatrics Team Leader: Uri Tabori, MD

Genentech-supported Projects

- Melanoma Team Leader: Matthew S. Block, MD, PhD
- Metastatic Breast Cancer Team Leader: Ingrid A. Mayer, MD
- Urothelial Bladder Cancer Team Leader: Peter A. Jones, PhD, DSc, FAACR

HIGH RISK, HIGH IMPACT: 2017 INNOVATIVE RESEARCH GRANTS FOR IMMUNO-ONCOLOGY

SU2C expanded its support of young investigators with new ideas in 2017 by awarding 10 new Innovative Research Grants. These grants provide significant support to early-career scientists, empowering them to pursue research projects that challenge existing paradigms. With the support of industry partner Bristol-Myers Squibb, SU2C distributed $7.5 million in grants to support 10 projects that aspire to bring the benefits immuno-oncology to an increasing number of patients.

ANNUAL SU2C SCIENTIFIC SUMMIT: PATIENT PERSPECTIVE

Another unique element of SU2C's team-based funding model is the inclusion of patient advocates on the project teams. These team members provide a critical patient perspective on the treatments being developed while also reminding the scientific participants that improving the lives of patients is the ultimate goal of their research projects. This patient focus was in evidence at the annual SU2C Scientific Summit. The Summit—which was organized by the AACR—gathers the entire SU2C community to provide updates on the status of SU2C-funded research projects and explore additional possibilities for collaboration among the scientific teams. For the first time, patient advocates joined their scientific colleagues in addressing the Summit attendees.

Stu Rickerson (*far right*), a 12-year survivor of pancreatic cancer who serves on the SU2C-Lustgarten team, and Patrick Gavin (*near right*), a survivor of three types of cancer who is a member of the VARI-SU2C Epigenetics Dream Team, delivered a presentation on improving participation in clinical trials and simplifying the process of securing informed consent. While they provided a valuable perspective on the logistical challenges of delivering new treatments, these patient advocates also inspired the scientists, clinicians, industry partners, and funders to redouble their efforts on behalf of all cancer patients.

SCIENCE POLICY AND GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

Participants in the fifth annual Rally for Medical Research Hill Day. The AACR is a founding organizer of the event, which brought more than 300 advocates to Capitol Hill in September 2017 to call on Congress to make biomedical research funding a national priority.

In 1909, two years after the founding of the AACR, U.S. President William Howard Taft recommended that Congress establish a National Bureau of Health by aligning the efforts of existing government health agencies and creating new agencies as needed to support public well-being. That same year, AACR co-founder and President Harvey R. Gaylord, MD, wrote a letter to President Taft urging him to include the establishment of a Department of Cancer Research in his recommendation. Sixty-two years later, in 1971, AACR leaders advocated successfully for the passing of the National Cancer Act, which transformed the National Cancer Institute and launched the "war on cancer."

Today, through its Office of Science Policy and Government Affairs in Washington, D.C., the AACR continues to support federal funding for cancer research, providing an authoritative source of information to policy makers and regulators and serving as a powerful voice for the cancer research community.

WORKING TO SAFEGUARD FEDERAL FUNDING

Continued progress against cancer was threatened in 2017 when the Trump administration released a budget proposal for fiscal year 2018 that included a 21 percent cut in funding for the National Institutes of Health (NIH). The AACR raised its authoritative voice throughout the year on behalf of the NIH and NCI, opposing the proposed cuts and mobilizing leaders and stakeholders to urge Congress to make cancer research a continued priority.

- **Early-Career Investigator Hill Day.** Due to budget limitations in FY 2017, the NCI funded only 12 percent of approved research grant applications from early-career investigators, leaving many promising ideas unsupported. As a result, the average age at which researchers receive their first NIH independent research grant is 42, and this dearth of opportunities threatens the future of the cancer workforce. AACR member and mentor Steven R. Patierno, PhD, and the AACR Associate Member Council brought 15 Associate Members to Washington in March 2017 for the second annual Early-Career Investigator Hill Day to educate Congress about the vital importance of sustaining the nation's pipeline of cancer scientists. Meetings with 39 congressional offices were held in conjunction with a National Day of Action campaign, in which advocates from around the U.S. urged lawmakers to provide predictable funding increases for the NIH.

- **AACR-AACI-ASCO Joint Hill Day**. In May, the AACR marked National Cancer Research Month by partnering with the Association of American Cancer Institutes (AACI) and the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) for their tenth annual joint Hill Day. The three organizations brought more than 80 researchers, physician-scientists, cancer center directors, survivors, and patient advocates to Capitol Hill to meet with congressional leaders and their offices to discuss the vital role of federally funded cancer research in improving the lives of patients. At a reception the evening before the Hill Day, the participating organizations honored Rep. Andre Carson (D-IN) (*second from left*) and Rep. David McKinley (R-WV) for their outstanding leadership on behalf of cancer research.

- **Cancer Progress Report Congressional Briefing.** The AACR released its seventh annual Cancer Progress Report at a special Congressional briefing on Capitol Hill. Hosted by AACR CEO Margaret Foti, PhD, MD (hc), and AACR President Michael A. Caligiuri, MD, the briefing outlined the recent advances made against cancer as a result of federally funded research and called on Congress to support future advances through sustained increases in funding. Two members of Congress, Senator Sherrod Brown (D-OH) and Congressman Jamie Raskin (D-MD), addressed the briefing to express their strong support for NIH funding. Representative Raskin, a colorectal cancer survivor who was featured in the report, joined other featured survivors—Merkel cell carcinoma survivor Carrie Best and ovarian cancer survivor Teri Woodhull—in discussing the impact of cancer research on their lives.

- **Rally for Medical Research Hill Day.** In September, the AACR resumed its leadership role as the founding organizer of the Rally for Medical Research, joining more than 300 scientific and patient organizations to advocate for biomedical science. The fifth annual Hill Day brought more than 300 advocates to Capitol Hill to participate in more than 240 meetings with congressional offices. Several members of Congress addressed the Rally participants and confirmed their support for federally funded biomedical research, including Congressman Tom Cole (R-OK) (*near right*) and Senator Roy Blunt (R-MO), co-chairmen of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies; and Senators Dick Durbin (D-IL), Chris Van Hollen (D-MD), and Jerry Moran (R-KS), members of the Senate Committee on Appropriations.

  Across the country, advocates participating in the Rally National Day of Action used e-mail and social media to contact 96 senators and 291 members of the House to express their support for sustained increases to the NIH budget.

MILESTONES IN SCIENCE POLICY AND GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

1909	AACR President Harvey Gaylord, MD, writes a letter to President William Howard Taft urging government funding for cancer research.
1947	At the 38th Annual Meeting, May 16-17, a policy presentation is made: "On the Organization and Support of Cancer Research," which concludes that the AACR should advocate for increased funding.
1971	AACR leaders advocate for the passing of the National Cancer Act and attend the signing at the White House on December 23.
1977	The first AACR science policy committee, the Public Issues Committee, is formed.
1988	AACR retains a firm to provide representation in Washington, D.C.
1998	On September 25-26, AACR participates in "THE MARCH: Coming Together to Conquer Cancer," which culminates in a rally on the National Mall in Washington, D.C. THE MARCH Research Task Force Report is published in *Cancer Research*.
2007	The AACR opens its Office of Science Policy and Government Affairs in Washington, DC.
2011	The first AACR Cancer Progress Report is published.
2013	The AACR partners with over 200 organizations and institutions to conduct the first Rally for Medical Research, April 8, Washington, DC. More than 10,000 people attended the Rally to show their support for federal funding for cancer research.

- **Science Policy and Government Affairs Committee Members on Capitol Hill.** Members of the AACR Science Policy and Government Affairs Committee attended meetings with key congressional offices during a special visit to Capitol Hill in November. Committee members met with Senator Diane Feinstein (D-CA); the office of Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY); the office of Senator Lamar Alexander (R-TN), chairman of the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP) Committee; and the office of Representative Mark Walker (R-NC), chairman of the Republican Study Committee. The AACR members urged the congressional leaders to support a budget agreement that would lift the spending caps and to increase the NIH budget by $2 billion for FY 2018.

ENGAGING WITH POLICY MAKERS

The AACR supports the national conversation over cancer science policy, educating lawmakers about the latest advances in cancer research and exposing them to the perspectives of stakeholders from across the cancer community.

- **Cancer Research Roundtable.** In March, the AACR partnered with University Hospital and Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey in Newark to host a roundtable discussion titled "Cancer Research Today: Innovation, Progress and Promise." U.S. Representative Donald Payne Jr. (D-NJ)—a co-chair of the Congressional Men's Health Caucus whose father died of colorectal cancer and who works to increase awareness of early cancer screening—joined the discussion. The participants highlighted recent advances and opportunities in cancer treatment, prevention, and early detection, demonstrating how sustained federal investment in biomedical research can save and improve the lives of those touched by cancer.

ANNA D. BARKER, PHD
Chair, Public Education Committee (1992-2001)
Founding Chair, AACR Science Policy and Legislative Affairs Committee (SPLAC) (2001-2002)

The vision for the AACR's science policy and advocacy initiatives is to place research at the center of a unified strategy to conquer cancer—and Anna Barker, PhD, has been a driving force behind that vision. For example, Dr. Barker was one of the founding organizers of THE MARCH: Coming Together to Conquer Cancer, an unprecedented grass-roots national event dedicated to the conquest of cancer. The goal of THE MARCH—which was supported by the AACR—was to "[unite] cancer survivors, families, scientists, and the public in an urgent campaign to place the prevention, treatment, and cure of cancer at the top of research and health care priorities for every government official and American citizen." Dr. Barker also chaired THE MARCH Research Task Force of over 130 scientists and co-authored the Task Force's report, which was published in the AACR journal *Cancer Research* in October 1998. The report outlined specific recommendations for expediting cancer prevention and treatment research and advancing the prospect for conquering cancer, and it called for a doubling of the budget for the National Cancer Institute (NCI) over five years to achieve those recommendations.

An AACR member since 1978, Dr. Barker served as the chair of the AACR's Public Education Committee (PEC) from 1992-2001. When the committee was reconstituted as the Science Policy and Legislative Affairs Committee (SPLAC) in 2001, she served as its Founding Chair until 2002, when she joined the National Cancer Institute as the Deputy Director. Under Dr. Barker's leadership, the PEC and, subsequently, the SPLAC served as the AACR's principal means for devising and implementing strategies to shape and influence important cancer and biomedical research-related policy issues spanning areas from research funding to healthcare policy and regulation.

> "Cancer research occurs in a complex, interconnected ecosystem that includes cancer patients and survivors, basic and clinical researchers, and on a larger scale the government, private, and nonprofit sectors, and of course the public. Therefore, it is a strategic imperative that the AACR lead efforts to ensure that the policies and sustained funding needed to foster advances in cancer research, and their translation to patients, continue to thrive. Through the SPLAC, trans-sector partnerships, cancer survivor and advocacy programs, public and legislative education efforts, the AACR Cancer Progress Report, and many other initiatives, the AACR has become a trusted expert on cancer and health care policy. The AACR's policy and advocacy efforts are transformative for the entire cancer ecosystem and we are just getting started!"

POLICY AND ADVOCACY

- **Congressional Briefing on Cancer Survivorship.** Congresswoman Diana DeGette (D-CO) of the House Energy and Commerce Committee, which has oversight authority over NIH, provided opening remarks for a Congressional briefing organized by the AACR in April. Titled "The Road to Cancer Survivorship: Discover, Predict, Prevent, and Treat," the briefing was moderated by George D. Demetri, MD, a member of the AACR Board of Directors and chair of the AACR Science Policy and Government Affairs Committee. Panelists included AACR members Anna D. Barker, PhD, Chanita Hughes-Halbert, PhD, Andreana N. Holowatyj, and patient advocate Jack Whelan.

- **AACR-SITC Joint Congressional Briefing.** The AACR worked with the Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer (SITC) in July to host a Congressional briefing titled "Progress in Immunotherapy: Delivering Hope and Clinical Benefit to Cancer Patients." Moderated by AACR President-Elect Elizabeth M. Jaffee, MD, the briefing highlighted the exciting innovations in the field of immuno-oncology and discussed ways to ensure that even more cancer patients can benefit from these revolutionary treatments. Panelists included Lisa H. Butterfield, PhD, president of SITC; Bernard A. Fox, PhD, past-president of SITC; AACR members Steven A. Rosenberg, MD, PhD, and Daniel S. Chen, MD, PhD; and patient advocate Stefanie Joho.

FOSTERING DIALOGUE WITH REGULATORS AND THE CANCER COMMUNITY

The AACR's advocacy efforts to ensure robust, sustained, and predictable funding increases for the NIH are critical to driving innovations in cancer research. To ensure that those innovations are translated into treatments and delivered to patients as rapidly and efficiently as possible, the AACR also engages regulators at the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and other government agencies. Through workshops and briefings, the AACR supports the FDA's mission by highlighting the science behind regulatory policy.

- **AACR Annual Meeting 2017: Regulatory Science and Science Policy Tracks**. To complement the cutting-edge cancer science on the AACR Annual Meeting program, the OSPGA presented two comprehensive tracks of sessions covering science policy and regulatory science and policy. The science policy track featured a timely session titled "E-cigarettes: Are They a Public Health Threat or a Useful Cessation Tool?" Chaired by AACR Tobacco and Cancer Subcommittee member Benjamin A. Toll, PhD, the session included presentations from subcommittee chair Roy S. Herbst, MD, PhD, and Brian A. King, PhD, MPH, deputy director for research translation at the U.S. Centers for Disease Control Office on Smoking and Health. A highlight of the regulatory science and policy track was a session titled "Tables Turned: A Conversation with the Press About the Future of Cancer Research and Treatment." The sessions featured Richard Pazdur, MD, director of the FDA Oncology Center for Excellence, moderating a panel that included Adam Feuerstein from The Street, Matthew Herper from *Forbes*, Laurie McGinley from *The Washington Post*, and Meg Tirrell from CNBC.

- **AACR-FDA Oncology Dose Finding Workshop, Part III.** Co-chaired by AACR President-Elect Elizabeth M. Jaffee, MD, and Amy E. McKee, MD, supervisory associate director at the FDA Office of Hematology and Oncology Products, the third edition of this annual jointly-organized workshop was held in July and focused on approaches to combination therapy and best practices regarding patient and dose selection, biomarkers to aid in selection, and novel endpoints that can define patient benefit.

- **AACR-FDA Workshop on Liquid Biopsies in Oncology Drug and Device Development, Part II.** Held in October, the second edition of this joint workshop examined the regulatory challenges in adopting liquid biopsies for early detection, disease monitoring, and use as surrogate end point markers for drug development. The workshop was co-chaired by AACR Past President (2014-2015) Carlos L. Arteaga, MD, FAACR (*far right*); Pasi A. Jänne, MD, PhD, a member of the AACR Regulatory Science and Policy Subcommittee; Julia Beaver, MD, acting director of the FDA Division of Oncology Products 1, Office of Hematology and Oncology (OHOP); Gideon Blumenthal, MD, acting deputy director of OHOP; and Reena Philip, PhD, director of the Division of Molecular Genetics and Pathology at the FDA Office of In Vitro Diagnostics and Radiological Health.

SURVIVOR AND PATIENT ADVOCACY

Just as the AACR's scientific programs and initiatives support scientists and clinicians, its Survivor and Patient Advocacy programs empower patients, caregivers, and advocates to approach their cancer journeys with knowledge and hope. By maintaining a dialogue between the professionals who research and treat cancer and the patients they serve, the AACR builds a stronger cancer community.

SCIENTIST↔SURVIVOR PROGRAM

Nearly 50 advocates participated in AACR Scientist↔Survivor programs (SSP) in 2017, which were offered at the Annual Meeting in April and at the Science of Cancer Health Disparities conference in September. The participants attended sessions with AACR scientist mentors, gaining an understanding of the innovative science behind their treatment experiences while providing their counterparts with vital patient perspectives.

During the Annual Meeting, three AACR members were named Emeritus Mentors in recognition of their longstanding commitment to the SSP. The advocates thanked Aime Franco, PhD, Jerry S. H. Lee, PhD, and Emil Lou, MD, PhD, for sharing their time and expertise with program participants for more than three years.

Program participants took advantage of the Annual Meeting's Washington, D.C., location by attending a congressional briefing on Capitol Hill titled "The Road to Cancer Survivorship: Discover, Predict, Prevent, and Treat" (*see p. 72*). SSP founder Anna Barker, PhD, and patient advocate Jack Whelan participated in a panel discussion during the briefing.

MILESTONES IN THE SURVIVOR AND PATIENT ADVOCACY PROGRAM

1967	The first Certificates of Award (later named Public Service Awards) are presented and the citations published in *Cancer Research*: Mary W. Lasker; Sen. Lister Hill (D-AL); Rep. John E. Fogarty (D-RI), posthumously.
1997	The first Public Forum, Progress and New Hope in the Fight Against Cancer, is held.
1999	The inaugural Scientist↔Survivor Program takes place at the Annual Meeting, March 28-April 1.
2006	*CR*, the AACR's first magazine for cancer patients, survivors, and caregivers, is launched.
2007	The Scientist↔Survivor Program is expanded to include the AACR Conference on the Science of Cancer Health Disparities.
2010	In collaboration with the Alamo Breast Cancer Foundation, the AACR establishes a special education session for advocates attending the San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium.
2011	*Cancer Today*, the rebranded AACR magazine for cancer patients, survivors, and caregivers, is launched.

CANCER TODAY MAGAZINE

Cancer Today, the AACR's magazine for cancer patients, survivors, and caregivers, is a vital resource for anyone navigating the challenges of cancer diagnosis, treatment, and survival. Now in its sixth full year of publication, the magazine continues to tackle important cancer topics in a serious, comprehensive way. Among the most compelling stories published in 2017 were the following:

- "Seeking a Second Opinion" (Spring 2017). Noting that "many, and probably most, cancer patients do not seek out another opinion," contributing writer Stephen Ornes cites studies showing that another doctor's perspective "can help improve cancer care, change a treatment plan, bolster a patient's confidence and, rarely, even alter a diagnosis."
- "A New Look for Clinical Trials" (Summer 2017). Cancer patients participating in clinical trials are often younger, healthier, and less likely to belong to a racial or ethnic minority group than cancer patients in general. Contributing editor Sue Rochman describes recent efforts to bring clinical trials more in line with patients who may eventually receive the treatment being tested.
- "Cancer Control in the Community" (Fall 2017). Senior editor Marci A. Landsmann examines efforts to reduce the burden of cancer through screening, vaccinations, and public education campaigns that emphasize healthy behaviors. "These initiatives," she writes, "which often are part of a statewide cancer control plan, rely on the cooperation of community members, hospitals, advocacy groups, and government at all levels."
- "A Call to Care" (Winter 2017/2018). Associate editor Kate Yandell puts the spotlight on family members and friends who often are on the front line of support for cancer patients and survivors. She writes that caregiving has grown to include "complex medical tasks like giving injections and providing wound care. Caregiving can take a toll on finances and make it difficult for caregivers to keep a job, and caregivers have high rates of depression and anxiety."

In February and September, *Cancer Today* expanded beyond the printed page, bringing vital information to patients through two webinars. Moderated by editor-in-chief William G. Nelson, MD, PhD, director of the Johns Hopkins Kimmel Cancer Center, the webinars discussed the latest recommendations for breast, prostate, and colorectal cancer screening, and presented highlights from the *AACR Cancer Progress Report 2017*.

Cancer Today continued to earn accolades in 2017, as two articles—"Cancer and Watchful Waiting" by executive editor Kevin McLaughlin and "Reasons to Dream" by senior editor Marci A. Landsmann—were cited for editorial excellence by the 2017 Folio Eddie Awards.

AACR DISTINGUISHED PUBLIC SERVICE AWARDS

The AACR Distinguished Public Service Award honors the extraordinary contributions of an individual or group whose groundbreaking, innovative work exemplifies the organization's mission. During the opening ceremony of the 2017 Annual Meeting, the AACR honored four individuals for their outstanding efforts to advance cancer science for the benefit of patients.

THE HONORABLE ROY BLUNT (R–MO)

Washington, D.C.
United States Senator

As the chair of the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies, which oversees the NIH budget, Senator Blount was instrumental in securing a $2 billion increase in NIH funding for fiscal year 2017. He received the Distinguished Public Service Award in recognition of his steadfast commitment to making medical research a national priority.

W. E. "ED" BOSARGE, PHD

Founder and CEO, Capital Technologies, Inc.
Houston, Texas

A passionate believer in the power of preventative and regenerative medicine, Dr. Bosarge has launched and supported a wide variety of research and development efforts, and his generous contribution to the AACR has enabled the organization to establish the AACR-Waun Ki Hong Award for Outstanding Achievement in Cancer Research in perpetuity. He received the Distinguished Public Service Award for his transformative approaches to cancer and biomedical science and for his philanthropic support of the next generation of cancer researchers.

JACK WHELAN

Cancer Research Advocate
Andover, Massachusetts

Diagnosed with Waldenström macroglobulinemia, a rare and incurable type of non-Hodgkin lymphoma, in 2007, Mr. Whelan benefited from his participation in clinical trials. He devoted his time to advocating for cancer research and educating patients about the importance of participation in clinical trials. He was recognized with the Distinguished Public Service Award for his tireless efforts to support cancer researchers and to improve the lives of cancer patients.

SIDNEY KIMMEL

Philanthropist
Malibu, California

A committed philanthropist who established the Sidney Kimmel Foundation in 1993 to "connect promise to progress," Mr. Kimmel has donated more than $500 million to support cancer research, establishing and sustaining some of the most renowned comprehensive cancer centers in the United States. He received the Distinguished Public Service Award in recognition of his longstanding commitment to supporting innovative cancer research.

Jack Whelan receives the 2017 AACR Distinguished Public Service Award from AACR CEO Margaret Foti, PhD, MD (hc) during the opening ceremony at the AACR Annual Meeting 2017.

Members of the Field of Investigation of Cancer office, U.S. Public Health Service, in the summer of 1937. This group of individuals—which included several AACR members and three future AACR Presidents—became the first staff of the newly established National Cancer Institute. Left to right: *medical director Floyd C. Turner, Joseph Stasio, Joseph Leiter, Jonathan L. Hartwell, Walter Gately, Adrian Perrault, Henry L. Meyer, Francis Linnell, John J. Murphy, Rose Robin (Rose Miner), Roger O'Gara, William McEleney, Theresa Shovelton, Howard B. Andervont (AACR President 1955-1956), Catherine V. Porter, Murray J. Shear (AACR President 1960-1961), Harold L. Stewart (AACR President 1958-1959), Thomas White, and Egon Lorenz. [Document Reference Section, National Cancer Institute.]*

Soon after establishing the AACR on May 11, 1907, the 11 founders inducted 23 Charter Members and 10 Charter Associate members. These 33 physicians and scientists were the first AACR members to commit themselves to the organization's charter mission of "further[ing] the investigation and spread[ing] the knowledge of cancer."

Members of the AACR Minorities in Cancer Research (MICR) Council with the recipients of the 2017 AACR Minority Scholar in Cancer Research Awards and the 2017 AACR Minority and Minority-serving Institution Faculty Scholar in Cancer Research Awards. MICR Council Members (front row, left to right)*: Beverly D. Lyn-Cook, PhD; Chairperson-Elect Designate Laura Fejerman, PhD; Past Chairperson Rick A. Kittles, PhD; Sanya A. Springfield, PhD; Kimlin Tam Ashing, PhD; John H. Stewart IV, MD; Chairperson John M. Carethers, MD.* Second row, far left: *Chairperson-Elect Brian M. Rivers, PhD.*

As the AACR has evolved over the course of 110 years, the organization's mission statement has also evolved. Today, the organization strives to "prevent and cure cancer through research, education, communication, and collaboration." The membership has grown from those 33 charter members to the more than 40,000 scientists, clinicians, and other health care professionals who advance the AACR's mission by pursuing groundbreaking discoveries every day. From all sectors of the cancer community—and from across the spectrum of cancer science—the AACR membership is the catalyst for cancer prevention and cures.

BY THE NUMBERS

ACTIVE MEMBERS
Established laboratory researchers, physician-scientists, clinicians, and population scientists

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS
Young laboratory scientists and physicians-in-training (graduate students, medical students and residents, and clinical and postdoctoral fellows)

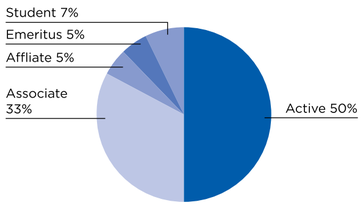
STUDENT MEMBERS
Undergraduate and high school students

EMERITUS MEMBERS
Active members who have reached the age of 70 years

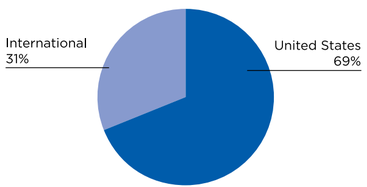
AFFILIATE MEMBERS
Other health care professionals (practicing oncologists, nurses, laboratory technicians, non-scientific corporate professionals, and patient advocates)

Note: Totals may not equal 100% due to rounding.

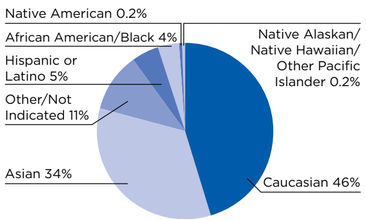
MEMBERS BY CATEGORY



MEMBERS BY LOCATION



MEMBERS BY RACE/ETHNICITY



6,315
New members joined the AACR in 2017.

3,435
Individuals have been AACR members for more than 25 years.

120
Countries are represented by AACR members.

44
Nobel Laureates have been members of the AACR.

151
Individuals have been AACR members for more than 50 years.

4,460
AACR members are younger than 30 years of age (12% of all members).

2,623
AACR members are older than 70 years of age (7% of all members).

U.S. STATES WITH THE MOST AACR MEMBERS

California
3,713

Massachusetts
2,257

New York
2,154

Maryland
2,011

Texas
2,001

NON-U.S. COUNTRIES WITH THE MOST AACR MEMBERS

Japan
1,664

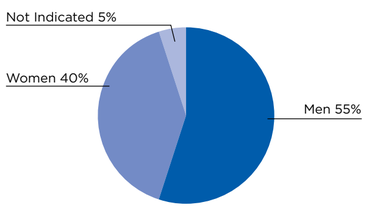
China
930

Republic of Korea
830

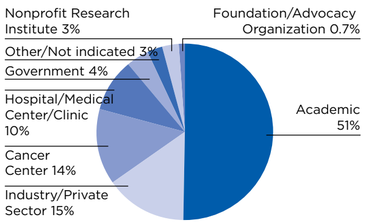
England
709

Germany
598

MEMBERS BY GENDER



MEMBERS BY WORK SETTING



DIVERSIFYING THE CANCER WORKFORCE

Diversity in scientific inquiry is critical to the prevention and cure of cancer, as advances in cancer treatment and care depend upon an increasing understanding and application of basic, translational, clinical, and epidemiological science. Diversity in the cancer research workforce is also critical to the AACR's mission. To ensure that its membership reflects the patients that it serves, the AACR identifies, trains, and mentors talented scientists from populations that are underrepresented in the scientific community.

ASSOCIATE MEMBER COUNCIL (AMC; 2017 CHAIR: KENNETH DUTTON-REGESTER, PHD)

AMC serves as the leadership body for AACR associate members, which consists of graduate students, medical students and residents, and clinical and postdoctoral fellows. The council develops programs that address the particular needs of early-career scientists.

- Recognizing the vital role of advocacy in securing the future of the cancer workforce, AMC members led a delegation of 15 Associate Members to Washington in March for the second annual AACR Early-Career Investigator Hill Day. In meetings with 39 congressional offices over the course of a single day, these Associate Members thanked Members of Congress for funding the Beau Biden Cancer Moonshot and asked them to provide sustained and predictable funding increases for the NIH going forward. The in-person meetings were accompanied by an online National Day of Action campaign that encouraged early-career investigators around the country to contact their representatives and urge them to make federal funding for cancer and biomedical research a national priority.

- One of the greatest challenges to the maintenance of a robust cancer workforce is ensuring that early-career scientists have sufficient financial and professional support to remain in the field until they can transition to a secure position. While the AACR addresses this challenge through career development grants, the Council took the initiative to garner support for those programs, working with the AACR Foundation to launch its inaugural #KeepEmResearching fundraising campaign. From May through July, the campaign used social media and email outreach to raise approximately $15,000 to benefit early-career scientists.
- The financial challenges that early-career scientists face often prevent them from initiating or maintaining their AACR membership, depriving this cohort of mentorship and support at a critical juncture of their careers. In November, the AACR Board of Directors took an important step toward maintaining the career arc of young investigators by voting to eliminate member dues for Associate Members beginning in 2018—ensuring that the benefits of AACR membership are available to those who are most in need of them.

Early-career scientists network with senior investigators—including 2017 Charlotte Friend Lecturer Anne-Lise Børresen-Dale, PhD, MD (right)—during roundtable discussions at the AACR Women in Cancer Research Career Mentoring Session, held during the AACR Annual Meeting 2017.

MEMBERSHIP

MINORITIES IN CANCER RESEARCH (MICR; 2017 COUNCIL CHAIR: JOHN M. CARETHERS, MD)

MICR is a membership group within the AACR committed to preventing and curing cancer while meeting the professional needs and advancing the careers of minority scientists.

- In November, the AACR hosted its Tenth Conference on the Science of Cancer Health Disparities in Racial/Ethnic Minorities and the Medically Underserved in Atlanta, Georgia. Since its founding in 2007, the conference—held in association with the MICR Council—aims to identify, understand, and ultimately eliminate disparities in cancer incidence and care. In addition to presenting the latest in research in the field, the 2017 conference showcased the impact of ten years of disparities research with an evening celebration titled "Advancing the Science of Cancer Health Disparities: A Decade of Progress." The celebration included two special presentations:

– Sanya A. Springfield, PhD, Director of the National Cancer Institute Center to Reduce Cancer Health Disparities, was recognized for her longstanding commitment to reducing the disproportionate burden of cancer through research.

– Henrietta Lacks, an African-American woman whose cancer cells were the source of the HeLa cell line, was honored for her posthumous contributions to biomedical research and cancer science. Ms. Lacks' grandsons, David Lacks, Jr. (*left*), and Alfred Lacks Carter, Jr. (*center*), attended the celebration and accepted the honor on her behalf.

- As part of their commitment to diversifying the cancer workforce, the AACR and MICR established the Minority and Minority-Serving Institution Faculty Scholar in Cancer Research Awards in 1997. These awards enable full-time underrepresented minority faculty members and full-time faculty members of Minority-serving Institutions to attend and participate in AACR Annual Meetings and Special Conferences. At the 2017 Annual Meeting, MICR celebrated the 20th anniversary of the awards, which has supported the participation of more than 350 talented minority faculty members in AACR scientific programs.

WOMEN IN CANCER RESEARCH (WICR; 2017 COUNCIL CHAIR: JUDITH S. SEBOLT-LEOPOLD, PHD)

WICR is a membership group within the AACR committed to recognizing women's scientific achievements and fostering their career development and advancement in cancer research.

- In April, at the 2017 Annual Meeting, WICR celebrated the 20th anniversary of the Charlotte Friend Memorial Lectureship. Named for Charlotte Friend, PhD—the first female full professor at Mount Sinai School of Medicine, an AACR Past President (1975-1976), and a pioneer in virology who discovered the Friend leukemia virus—the lecture highlights an outstanding investigator who has made meritorious contributions to the field of cancer research and who has, through leadership or by example, furthered the advancement of women in science. The 20th anniversary lecture was delivered by Anne-Lise Børresen-Dale, PhD, MD (*center*), of Oslo University Hospital Institute for Cancer Research.
- In 2017, WICR presented two Professional Advancement Sessions to support the career development of women investigators. A Career Mentoring Session was held at the special conference on Tumor Immunology and Immunotherapy in October. The session featured a keynote address by conference chair Miriam Merad, MD, PhD, and was moderated by Annual Meeting 2017 program chair Kornelia Polyak, MD, PhD. Later that month, at the AACR-NCI-EORTC International Conference on Molecular Targets and Cancer Therapeutics, AACR CEO Margaret Foti, PhD, MD (hc), delivered the keynote address at a session titled "Driving your Career Forward: Being Brave, Getting a Rhino Skin, Surviving Super Crazy Busy, and Achieving a Work Life Balance That Works."

Members of the AACR Board of Directors for 2017–2018.

AACR OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

2016-2017 AACR President Nancy E. Davidson, MD, FAACR, hands the gavel to incoming (2017-2018) President Michael A. Caligiuri, MD during the presidential transfer of power ceremony, which took place during the Annual Business Meeting of Members at the AACR Annual Meeting 2017.

The AACR thanks its officers and members of the board of directors for their vision, their wisdom, and their tireless efforts on behalf of the cancer research community.

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Eighty-eight cents of every dollar raised by the AACR Foundation goes to support lifesaving cancer science. The AACR thanks the officers and trustees of the Foundation for their efforts to maximize the impact of donations on the lives of cancer patients.

Raymond N. DuBois, MD, PhD, FAACR (right)*, Chair and President of the AACR Foundation, with Rodney McLeod* (left)*, Philadelphia Eagles safety and AACR ambassador.*

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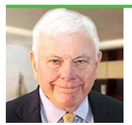

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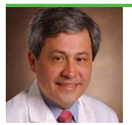

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SUPPORTING LIFESAVING CANCER RESEARCH

The comprehensive breadth and depth of its scientific expertise—and the innovative programs and initiatives it manages in support of its mission to prevent and cure all cancers—make the AACR a beneficiary of choice for philanthropic individuals and organizations and anyone focused on the cancer problem. The AACR Foundation builds a community of these supporters, providing them with opportunities to direct their resources toward the development of groundbreaking advances for cancer patients.

PUBLIC AWARENESS CAMPAIGN: LEADING DISCOVERIES, TARGETING CURES, SAVING LIVES

The AACR marked its 110th anniversary with the launch of a new campaign to increase public awareness of the organization and its mission. Titled "Leading Discoveries, Targeting Cures, Saving Lives," the campaign emphasized the AACR's vital role in driving advances against cancer through its support of innovative research. In addition to television and radio advertisements in the organization's headquarters city of Philadelphia and in Washington, D.C. (the location of the AACR Annual Meeting 2017), the AACR also employed a national digital and social media campaign to increase support for lifesaving cancer science.

Runners at the start of the 2017 AACR Runners for Research 5K Walk/Run, which was held on the first day of the AACR Annual Meeting 2017 in Washington, DC. AACR Runners for Research team members participated in 20 races around the country in 2017 and raised $450,000 to support innovative cancer science.

EXPANDING VITAL PARTNERSHIPS WITH INDUSTRY

Industry scientists recognize the AACR's critical role as a catalyst for innovation, and in 2017 they expanded their support of that role. The AACR Sustaining Member program expanded to encompass a total of 25 corporate supporters, and the recent successes of AACR Project GENIE has earned the support of an increasing number of industry partners who see the value in the project's goal of advancing cancer treatment by linking genomic data to clinical outcomes.

During the 2017 Annual Meeting, one of the AACR's longstanding supporters made a dramatic gesture of its commitment to the AACR's mission. Amgen, whose relationship with the AACR began in 1996, announced a $1 million contribution during the Opening Ceremony. This unrestricted gift will accelerate progress against cancer by enabling the AACR to identify and pursue the most promising areas of inquiry.

AACR RUNNERS FOR RESEARCH: BUILDING COMMUNITY TO SUPPORT CANCER SCIENCE

The AACR Runners for Research team enables cancer patients, survivors, caregivers, and their friends and family to challenge themselves while advancing the AACR's mission. Team members participated in 20 races across the country in 2017, raising more than $450,000 to support lifesaving cancer research. More than 750 team members participated in the team's three signature events—the AACR Runners for Research 5K Run/Walk at the Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C.; the AACR Philadelphia Rock 'n' Roll Half Marathon in September; and the AACR Philadelphia Marathon in November.

LOCAL OUTREACH, GLOBAL IMPACT

The AACR strengthened its connection with its home city of Philadelphia in 2017, building upon existing relationships and establishing new ones to increase awareness of the AACR's mission and to raise funds to support it.

- **Philadelphia Marathon.** In recognition of their shared mission of promoting health and wellness among local residents, the AACR established a relationship with the City of Philadelphia to be the Title Partner of the Philadelphia Marathon. Nearly 30,000 participants in the races and events around one of the nation's largest marathons learned about the AACR and its mission, and members of the Runners for Research team joined together to raise funds for innovative cancer research.

- **AACR Revolutions for Research.** More than 400 people joined teams and gathered at Philadelphia's Simeone Foundation Automotive Museum in November to participate in the second annual edition of this indoor cycling event. The teams cycled for 200 minutes to raise awareness of the more than 200 types of cancer and to support the AACR's mission.

- **Scramble Fore Research.** In partnership with the Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center at Thomas Jefferson University in Philadelphia, the AACR held the inaugural edition of this annual golf outing at RiverWinds Golf and Tennis Club in West Deptford, New Jersey in June. Joined by club owners and local sports personalities, more than 70 participants learned about the AACR while raising money to support its programs and initiatives.

- **97.5 FM The Fanatic All-Star Day Radiothon.** In May, the AACR partnered with Philadelphia sports talk radio station 97.5 FM The Fanatic to mark National Cancer Research Month with an all-day radiothon. Local and national athletes and celebrity guests joined The Fanatic's on-air personalities throughout the day to discuss their personal experiences with cancer and the AACR's efforts to improve the lives of all cancer patients, and an online auction of sports memorabilia and experiences raised funds to support cancer research.

SARAH HAPPY
Cancer Survivor and AACR Ambassador

Sarah Happy, a 32-year-old lawyer who lives in Philadelphia, was a two-time cancer survivor by the time she was 25 years old. She was diagnosed with lymphoma in 2007 at the age of 22, and after a regimen of chemotherapy and radiation she was declared cancer-free ten months later. In 2009, as she preparing to begin law school, she was diagnosed with cervical cancer. After two surgeries, Sarah was again declared free of cancer.

While Sarah remains cancer-free, she continues to manage the side effects of her treatments and other challenges of cancer survivorship. Her experiences as a patient and survivor have taught her the importance of research. She became an AACR Foundation ambassador, speaking on behalf of the AACR and cancer research and participating in AACR events as a member of the Runners for Research team—including running her first half-marathon at the AACR Rock 'n' Roll Philadelphia Half Marathon in September.

"I am an AACR ambassador because I think it's important as a survivor to talk about what the AACR is doing and make sure that people—not only cancer patients but cancer survivors—know about the latest in science. I'm doing as well as I am because I've had access to doctors that have the best training and know what is going on in research. I want every survivor and every cancer patient to have that same access."

- **Party with a Purpose.** In 2016, the AACR was selected as the exclusive beneficiary of the Philadelphia-based Party with a Purpose fundraising gala. Continuing their commitment to supporting the AACR's mission, the Party with a Purpose Committee—president Beverly Fassler Goldberg and cochairs Ida Goldstein, Meredith Goldstein, Carol Lissack, and John J. Parker—worked with the AACR to hold another successful gala in October. More than 450 people attended the gala to sustain AACR programs and initiatives focused on ovarian cancer.

During the gala, local philanthropic leaders Sarah and Daniel Keating were honored with the Party with a Purpose Humanitarian Award for their charitable work on behalf of cancer research. The AACR Foundation/Party with a Purpose Scientific Achievement Award was presented to Stephen C. Rubin, MD, Chief of Gynecologic Oncology at Fox Chase Cancer Center, in recognition of his outstanding contributions to the treatment of gynecologic cancers, including ovarian, uterine, cervical, and endometrial cancers. As part of this award, which fosters the work of early-career cancer researchers, Dr. Rubin selected Gina Mantia-Smaldone, MD, assistant professor of surgery, to receive a $50,000 grant for her work in exploring innovative therapies for women suffering from recurrent ovarian cancer.

Held in October, the Philadelphia-based Party with a Purpose gala raised critical funds to support AACR programs and initiatives. During the gala, local philanthropic leaders Sarah and Daniel Keating were honored with the Humanitarian Award for their charitable work on behalf of cancer research, and Stephen C. Rubin, MD, Chief of Gynecologic Oncology at Fox Chase Cancer Center, was honored for his scientific achievement. Left to right: *Jack Donnelly, recipient of the 2016 Party with a Purpose Humanitarian Award, and his wife, Kathy; Daniel and Sarah Keating; Stephen C. Rubin, MD, and his wife, Anne; Gina Mantia-Smaldone, MD, recipient of a $50,000 grant from Dr. Rubin as part of his award; committee president Beverly Fassler Goldberg; committee member John J. Parker; and AACR CEO Margaret Foti, PhD, MD (hc).*

SECURING THE FUTURE OF CANCER RESEARCH: DR. BAYARD D. CLARKSON LEGACY SOCIETY

During a year in which the AACR celebrated its past, the AACR Foundation worked to secure its future by focusing efforts on a legacy giving program. The group of distinguished and generous individuals who have to date pledged to support the AACR through an arranged estate, endowed, or other planned gift are celebrated with membership in the Dr. Bayard D. Clarkson Legacy Society. The legacy society was renamed in 2017 for Dr. Clarkson—a Past President, a fifty-year AACR member, a Fellow of the AACR Academy, and the Founding Chair of the AACR Foundation—so that others would be inspired by his vision, his generosity, and his lifetime commitment to improving the lives of patients through cancer science and medicine.

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Mac (left) *and Lisa Tichenor* (second from right) *join AACR President (2016-2017) Nancy E. Davidson, MD, FAACR* (far right)*, in presenting the QuadW Foundation-AACR Fellowships to recipients Michael J. Wagner, MD* (second from left) *and Joanna Przybyl, PhD* (center)*. Since 2013, the QuadW Foundation has provided $250,000 in funding through the AACR to support clinical and translational sarcoma research.*

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF SUPPORTERS

AACR President (2016-2017) Nancy E. Davidson, MD, FAACR (left) and Keith Wilcoxon, PhD, (right), Executive Director of Strategic Partnerships at TESARO, present the inaugural AACR-TESARO Career Development Award for Immuno-oncology Research to Michael Birnbaum, PhD (center).

PARTNERS IN PROGRESS ANNUAL GIVING SOCIETY

Annual Giving is an important component of the overall philanthropic plan at the American Association for Cancer Research Foundation, and affords all donors an opportunity to sustain lifesaving cancer research and related mission activities of the AACR. We gratefully acknowledge those individuals and family foundations who gave $500 or more, and those special events, associations, corporations and foundations that contributed $5,000 or more during the calendar year.

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Every effort is made to acknowledge the generosity of our donors with accuracy. Please contact the AACR Foundation if you believe there is an omission or error related to your support.

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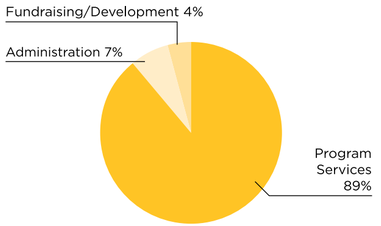
REVENUE AND EXPENSES 2017

In 2017, the AACR reported another year of positive financial growth. This financial stability enables the AACR to comprehensively meet the challenges of the cancer problem. Operating revenues increased 27% to $113 million and total expenditures closely matched revenues. The net impact of revenues and expenses resulted in an operating surplus of $3.8 million. As outlined in this report, several major projects were launched in 2017, and the AACR was able to outperform the budget through successful programming, revenue growth, and prudent financial management.

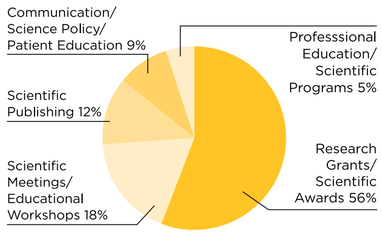
Non-operating activities are primarily related to long-term investments. The AACR's investments provided strong returns in the amount of $11.3 million in 2017 and outperformed comparable market indexes.

The results of the combined operating and non-operating activities resulted in a net surplus of $15.1 million, which enabled the AACR's unrestricted net assets to grow to $75.8 million. This important source of income ensures continued investment in the programs that will accelerate progress toward the prevention and cure of cancer in accordance with AACR's strategic plan.

2017 TOTAL EXPENSES



2017 PROGRAM EXPENSES
(% of Total Expenses)



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UNRESTRICTED REVENUES AND EXPENSES (UNAUDITED)

AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2017

	2016	2017	2017 PERCENT OF TOTAL
REVENUE			
Membership Dues	$4,028,199	$4,145,566	4%
Scientific Publishing	$18,233,271	$17,920,478	16%
Scientific Meetings / Educational Workshops	$19,111,543	$23,648,781	21%
Other Revenue	$859,462	$2,669,170	2%
Subtotal: Program Revenue	$42,232,475	$48,383,995	43%
Support			
NIH Grants	$849,259	$911,665	1%
Contributions	$45,834,320	$63,675,776	56%
Subtotal: Support Revenue	$46,683,579	$64,587,441	57%
TOTAL REVENUE	**$88,916,054**	**$112,971,436**	**100%**
EXPENSES			
Research Grants / Scientific Awards	$38,460,729	$54,556,901	50%
Scientific Meetings / Educational Workshops	$15,633,634	$18,110,349	17%
Scientific Publishing	$11,359,851	$11,622,941	11%
Communications / Science Policy / Patient Education	$7,953,703	$8,585,386	8%
Professional Education / Scientific Programs	$3,993,352	$4,464,488	4%
Subtotal: Program Expenses	$77,401,269	$97,340,065	89%
Member Services / Support Services	$6,022,366	$7,152,289	7%
Fundraising / Development	$3,795,012	$4,646,576	4%
Subtotal: Support Expenses	$9,817,378	$11,798,865	11%
TOTAL EXPENSES	**$87,218,647**	**$109,138,930**	**100%**
Operating Surplus before Investments	$1,697,407	$3,832,506	
Investment Income	$3,525,758	$11,324,081	
Change in Unrestricted Net Assets	$5,223,165	$15,156,587	
NET ASSETS BEGINNING OF YEAR	**$55,416,872**	**$60,640,037**	
NET ASSETS END OF YEAR	**$60,640,037**	**$75,796,624**	

LEADING DISCOVERIES. TARGETING CURES. SAVING LIVES.

Throughout this anniversary year, the AACR has celebrated 110 years of leadership in the cancer community. In 2018, the AACR will engage all elements of that leadership role—scientific expertise, innovative thinking, and collaborative spirit—to change the face of cancer going forward.

As outlined below, the AACR leadership and staff will continue working in 2018 to implement the priorities laid out in the Strategic Plan and to realize the vision of AACR President (2017-2018) Michael A. Caligiuri, MD. They will honor the legacy of the founders of the AACR by creating the future those founders envisioned—a future defined by the prevention and cure of all cancers.

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FELLOWS OF THE AACR ACADEMY: GOVERNANCE

Since its founding in 2013, the AACR Academy has provided advice and counsel to the AACR leadership on scientific topics and other significant issues. In 2018, the Academy's critical role will be formalized with the establishment of a governance structure. Current Fellows of the AACR Academy will elect an inaugural President-Elect, whose one-year term will begin at the AACR Annual Meeting 2018. This individual will then transition to the role of President at the Annual Meeting 2019. This new governance structure will empower the AACR Academy to fulfill the duties in its charge, which include identifying scientific priorities that will drive future progress in cancer research; influencing science and public policy and advocating for increased federal funding for cancer research; and mentoring the next generation of cancer scientists.

WORKING TO ELIMINATE CANCER HEALTH DISPARITIES

Throughout his term, 2017-2018 AACR President Michael A. Caligiuri, MD, has highlighted the critical issue of cancer health disparities and has called for an assessment of the scientific questions that must be answered to ensure that all patients—regardless of race or socioeconomic background—benefit from emerging breakthroughs in cancer treatment. In an opening address to attendees of the Tenth AACR Conference on The Science of Cancer Health Disparities, held in October 2017, Dr. Caligiuri announced the "2020 by 2020 Presidential Initiative," a collaborative effort to sequence cancer genomes from 2,020 African-American/Black cancer patients by the year 2020. To conduct the 2020 by 2020 initiative, the AACR is partnering with Pelotonia (through The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center–Arthur G. James Cancer Hospital and Richard J. Solove Research Institute) as well as M2Gen and the Oncology Research Information Exchange Network (ORIEN).

To reach the goal, the partners will facilitate the development of an infrastructure for consenting African-American patients to the ORIEN Total Cancer Care Protocol at

Morehouse School of Medicine in Atlanta. Morehouse is already a member of ORIEN; the injection of support through the 2020 by 2020 initiative will substantially increase the number of patients that the center can accrue and will allow for the continued collection of material from cancer patients well beyond the year 2020. The data will also be added to the AACR Project GENIE registry, and it will be provided to publicly accessible genome registries to benefit academic and industry researchers studying cancer and cancer outcomes in African-American populations. Under Dr. Caligiuri's leadership, large-scale sequencing will begin in 2018 with the hope that this pilot program will be expanded to include other minority populations in the future.

NEW COLLABORATIONS TO ADVANCE CANCER SCIENCE AND MEDICINE

The AACR is a catalyst for collaboration, bringing together scientists, clinicians, survivors, and advocates to attack the cancer problem. That collaborative spirit extends to the enterprise level, as AACR leaders work with their counterparts in other scientific organizations to pool resources, share ideas, and challenge each other to excel. The AACR collaborated with more than a dozen organizations in 2017 to organize meetings, train investigators, and advocate for support for cancer research. These collaborations will expand to new areas of research and new organizations in 2018.

- **Radiation Science and Medicine.** Since its founding in 2015, the AACR Radiation Science and Medicine Working Group (RSM) has fostered the application of radiation science to understand and treat cancer malignancies. Under the leadership of its Steering Committee (Chair: David R. Gius, MD, PhD, *above right*), RSM will partner with the Radiation Research Society (RRS) and the American Society for Radiation Oncology (ASTRO) to host educational workshops in February and July, respectively. In addition, the AACR

will work with ASTRO and the FDA to hold a Regulatory Science and Policy Workshop in February. The workshop, titled "Clinical Development of Drug-Radiotherapy Combinations," will bring academic and industry scientists together with regulators to address the lack of drug development for products intended specifically for use with radiation therapy.

- **Malignant Lymphoma.** Since 1981, the International Conference on Malignant Lymphoma (ICML) has been a vital forum for hematologists, clinical oncologists, radio-oncologists, pediatricians, pathologists, and other researchers involved in the study and treatment of lymphoid neoplasms. In 2015 and 2017, the AACR collaborated with the ICML to organize

a pre-conference workshop and a Joint Session at the conference, which now attracts over 3,000 attendees from 70 different countries. Beginning in 2018, this collaboration will become more formal and frequent, as the AACR and the ICML have entered into an agreement to cooperate on the development of the program.

As part of the agreement, the meeting will be held annually and will alternate between the United States and Lugano, Switzerland. The AACR will host the 2018 edition of the meeting—titled "Advances in Malignant Lymphoma: Maximizing the Basic-Translational Interface for Clinical Application"—which will be held in Boston, Massachusetts in June. The increased frequency and the cooperative development of the program will make the meeting the premier forum for malignant lymphoma research.

INCREASING FOCUS ON HEMATOLOGICAL MALIGNANCIES

One of the scientific priorities identified by the AACR Board of Directors during the development of the Vision 2020 Strategic Plan was the expansion of programs focused on hematological malignancies, and the AACR leadership is developing a plan to address this important strategic objective. While the increased collaboration with ICML and the upcoming conference on Advances in Malignant Lymphoma are an important part of this plan (*see above*), the AACR will explore launching new initiatives (such as conferences and other collaborations) and expanding existing ones (such as the Annual Meeting program) in 2018 to better support the needs of blood cancer researchers.

FOSTERING INNOVATIVE SCIENCE: NEW TASK FORCES AND THINK TANKS

The first strategic priority of the Vision 2020 Strategic Plan is "to identify and foster innovative science that is of the highest priority and potential for impact in reducing cancer incidence, morbidity, and mortality." To achieve this objective, the AACR will be convening several task forces and think tanks over the next few years to support critical scientific foci, including the following areas in 2018:

- **Think Tank on Cancer Health Disparities.** As indicated above, 2017-2018 AACR President Michael A. Caligiuri, MD, has made understanding and eliminating cancer health disparities a major priority during his term. Under the leadership of Chair John D. Carpten, PhD, and Cochair Sanya A. Springfield, PhD, the AACR Think Tank on Cancer Health Disparities will expand on those efforts beginning in the fall of 2018.
- **Task Force on Combination Therapies (Including Immunotherapy).** In February, the AACR will collaborate with ASTRO and the FDA to host a workshop on "Clinical Development of Drug-radiotherapy Combinations" (*see above*). Later in the year, AACR President (2018-2019) Elizabeth M. Jaffee, MD, will chair a new task force to further explore the challenges and opportunities in combination therapy, with a focus on immunotherapy drugs.
- **Task Force on Molecular Pathology and Imaging.** In February, the AACR and the Society of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging (SNMMI) will host their third joint conference on "State-of-the-Art Molecular Imaging in Cancer Biology and Therapy." Following up on the emerging themes of the conference, Massimo F. Loda, MD, will chair a new task force to explore how new findings in molecular imaging can improve cancer diagnostics, treatment, and patient outcomes.

LEADERSHIP SUPPORT FOR THE BIDEN CANCER INITIATIVE

As his term came to a close, former Vice President Joe Biden successfully led the effort to pass the 21st Century Cures Act, which provided $1.8 billion over seven years to fund the scientific priorities of the National Cancer Moonshot Initiative. While federal agencies have continued the efforts outlined in the Moonshot Task Force report, Mr. Biden launched a new venture, the Biden Cancer Initiative, in June 2017. The mission of the Biden Cancer Initiative is to develop and drive implementation of solutions to accelerate progress in cancer prevention, detection, diagnosis, research, and care, and to reduce disparities in cancer outcomes.

AACR President-Elect (2017-2018) Elizabeth M. Jaffee, MD (*below*), served as co-chair of the Cancer Moonshot Blue Ribbon Panel, which developed a set of ten transformative research recommendations to achieve the Cancer Moonshot's ambitious goal of making a decade's worth of progress against cancer in five years. Her leadership role continued in 2017, as she was one of five AACR members appointed to the Biden Cancer Initiative's Board of Directors. As Dr. Jaffee begins her term as AACR President in April 2018, the AACR will continue to collaborate with the Biden Cancer Initiative toward their shared goal of ending cancer as we know it.

On the cover (*clockwise from top left*):

AACR Fellow Beatrice Mintz, PhD, FAACR. Dr. Mintz is a Professor and the Jack Schultz Chair in Basic Science at Fox Chase Cancer Center, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. She received the AACR Lifetime Achievement Award in 2012 and was a member of the inaugural class of Fellows of the AACR Academy in 2013.

In addition to diversity in scientific inquiry, diversity in the cancer research workforce is also critical to the AACR's mission. To ensure that its membership reflects the patients that it serves, the AACR identifies, trains, and mentors talented scientists from populations that are underrepresented in the scientific community.

AACR Annual Meeting Attendees. AACR members and other scientists visiting the poster sessions during the 78th AACR Annual Meeting, May 20-23, 1987, in Atlanta, Georgia.

AACR CEO Margaret Foti, PhD, MD (hc). Dr. Foti serves as the chief executive officer of the AACR. The AACR's annual Award for Leadership and Extraordinary Achievements in Cancer Research is named in her honor.

AACR Academy Medals. These medals are presented to AACR Fellows upon their induction into the AACR Academy. Twelve new Fellows were inducted into the AACR Academy in 2017.

AACR President (2017-2018) Michael A. Caligiuri, MD. Dr. Caligiuri is President and Physician-in-Chief of the City of Hope National Medical Center, Duarte, California.

AACR President (2016-2017) Nancy E. Davidson, MD, FAACR. Dr. Davidson is Executive Director of Oncology at the Fred Hutch/ University of Washington Cancer Consortium, Seattle, Washington.

Daniel S. Chen, MD, PhD. An AACR member since 2007, Dr. Chen is Vice President and Global Head of Cancer Immunotherapy Development at Genentech/Roche, South San Francisco, California. He participated in the AACR-FDA Oncology Dose-Finding Workshop in July 2017.

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