



What if our young cancer
researchers traded their
microscopes
for briefcases?



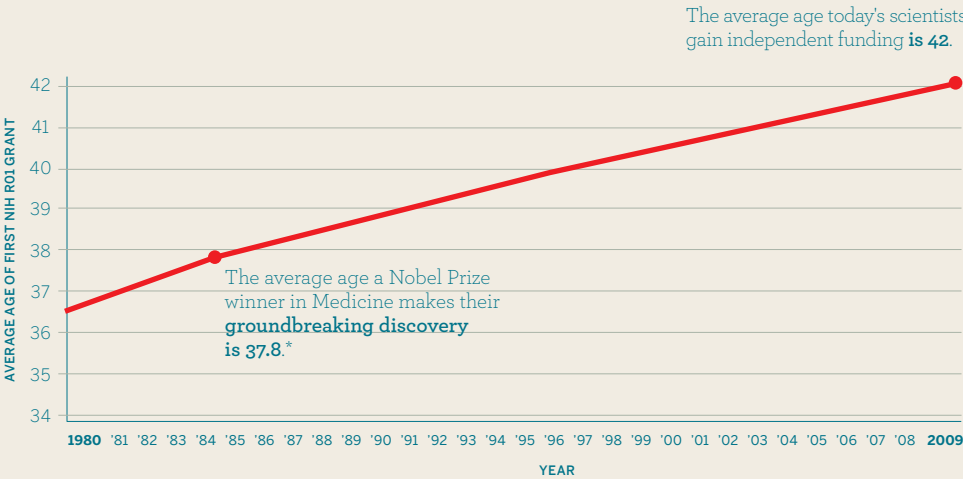
Damon Runyon
Cancer Research
Foundation

ANNUAL REPORT | 2010

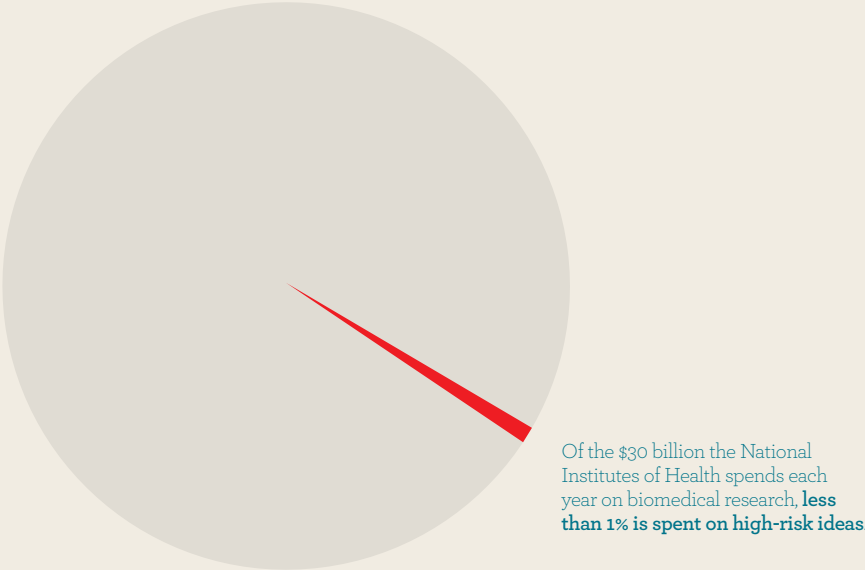
We are at risk of losing this generation's top young talent.



Today, most cancer researchers are not free to follow their own ideas until they are in their 40s.



They are actively discouraged from taking risks on bold ideas.



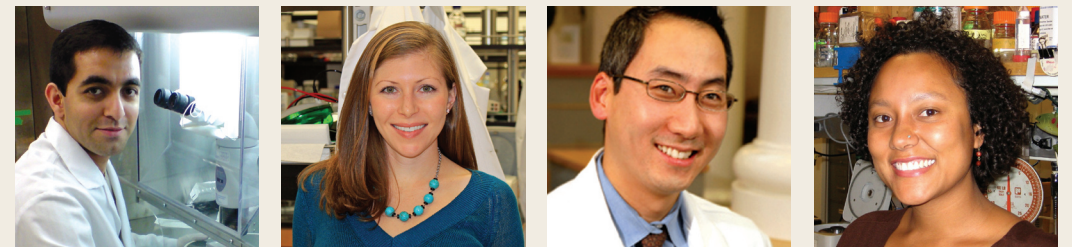
But we won't let that happen.



For more than 64 years, the Damon Runyon Cancer Research Foundation has been dedicated to keeping the best young scientists in cancer research.

Today, our role is even more important. Through our innovative and highly prestigious award programs, we are:

- Accelerating the careers of the most promising scientists
- Funding their bold ideas



Because the best young researchers drive breakthroughs.

Accelerating independence.

The training of a biomedical researcher can take more than a decade, and ends with a postdoctoral fellowship working in the laboratory of a senior scientist. At a time when their college friends are becoming managing directors, vice presidents and partners, most postdocs are still working on someone else's ideas.

Not a Damon Runyon Fellow. We identify the most brilliant young scientists and provide them with independent funding to pursue their **own ideas**.



Igniting young minds to fight cancer.



“Because of the Damon Runyon Fellowship, I was allowed more free reign. It let me build the foundation for an interesting course of events **that led to where I am today.**”

GREGORY J. HANNON, PHD

PROFESSOR AND HHMI INVESTIGATOR, COLD SPRING HARBOR LABORATORY, NY

DAMON RUNYON FELLOW '92-'94

Pioneer in the field of RNA interference (RNAi) and a key player in the discovery of microRNAs, which are now definitively linked to the development of cancer.

Esquire Genius Issue 2005, Science 'Breakthrough of the Decade'

At age 28, Greg Hannon knew that before him lay a long and difficult career. A young scientist's work life is one of extended hours, low pay, and a protracted training period during which one's own ideas take second place to those of senior scientists.

“Science is a hard road. The work that we do is an exercise in tolerating failure with the occasional reinforcement—if you're lucky—of a spectacular success. For the most part, people are encouraged to play it safe.”

Greg won his Damon Runyon Fellowship in 1992 when he was in his late twenties. He was still in training, but now had his own funding, which meant that he could set his own agenda and ask his own questions.

“It was amazing getting the Fellowship. The great thing about it was that it gave me a lot of freedom. And the work I was doing in the latter part of my Fellowship put me in the mindset to really notice and see the potential of RNAi.”

In 2001, Greg was among the first to describe and utilize a groundbreaking mechanism for studying cancer development. RNA interference (RNAi) enables scientists to turn off individual genes, and Greg began pioneering its use to identify new targets against cancer.

RNAi is now an essential tool for cancer scientists worldwide, and Greg is a recognized leader in this important field. His work has led to multiple awards and accolades, and continues to inform and shape specific therapies that target cancer cells but leave healthy cells alone.

Greg, now a Professor at Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory and a Howard Hughes Medical Institute Investigator, stays closely connected to Damon Runyon as a member of our Innovation Award Committee. Recently, he returned to speak to the next generation of Damon Runyon Fellows at one of our annual scientific retreats.

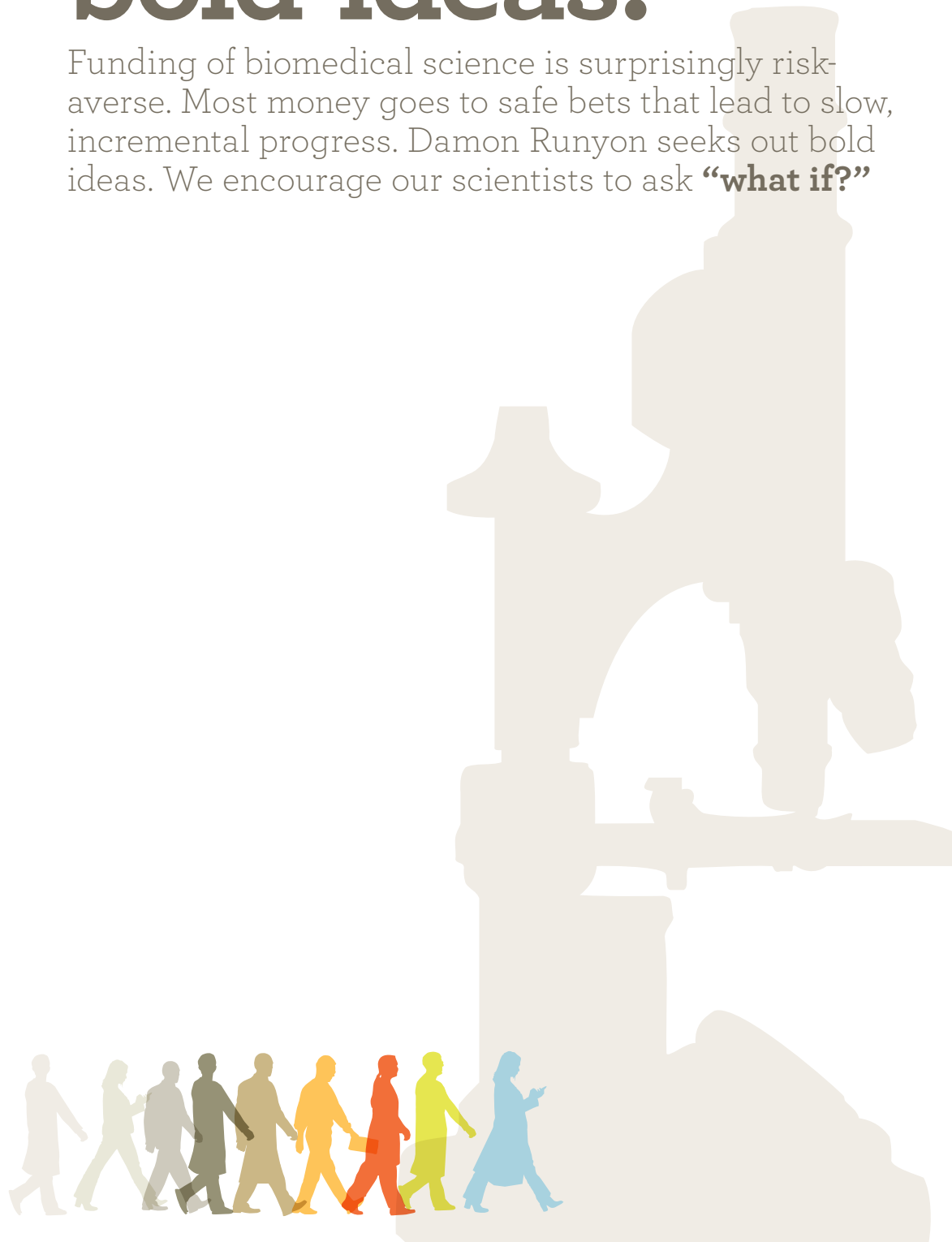
“What the Fellowship offers young scientists is encouragement and an ability to renew their focus. It gives them the confidence to do the hard experiments.

“It's easy to do an experiment that will work, it's easy to do the next logical step, it's easy to do something where you know there will be a payoff. What's hard is taking the risk, taking a path where the science is important but you're not really sure of the outcome. And anything we can do to train people as early as possible to reach for the big goal, I think we should do.

“It's programs like the Fellowship Award that help give young scientists the confidence to reach for the stars.”

Encouraging bold ideas.

Funding of biomedical science is surprisingly risk-averse. Most money goes to safe bets that lead to slow, incremental progress. Damon Runyon seeks out bold ideas. We encourage our scientists to ask **“what if?”**



Ideas that can change the world.



DAVID G. KIRSCH, MD, PHD
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR, DUKE UNIVERSITY, NC
DAMON RUNYON-RACHLEFF INNOVATOR '07-'10

Radiation oncologist, physician-scientist and inventor, Dr. David G. Kirsch is building a novel device that could help thousands of patients avoid potentially harmful treatments.

“

If this project hadn't been funded by Damon Runyon, I think I'd be putting my energies in other directions. And I doubt my work would have had the potential to **impact so many lives.**

”

At age 31, David Kirsch, a resident in radiation oncology, saw firsthand the suffering of patients going through radiation therapy and chemotherapy treatments. When he realized that these treatments were unnecessary for many patients, he was motivated to help.

“I saw that we were treating a lot of patients with radiation therapy because we were worried that they would have a few cells left behind after surgery. We didn't know one way or another. We were treating a large population of patients in order to save the handful who did have microscopic residual cancer.”

David suggested that if surgeons could see whether residual cancer cells remained behind after tumors were removed, they could then decide if a patient needed additional therapy.

“When I told radiologists I had a goal to image single cancer cells during surgery, they told me it would never happen,” he says.

David had scant preliminary research for his idea and only a short track record of excellent work in a related field. He knew he had no hope of receiving funding from traditional sources, which favor low-risk research by senior scientists.

Seeing the potential in David and his idea, Damon Runyon granted him an Innovation Award in 2007. David immediately began testing fluorescent imaging probes that are activated in tumors. He also started work in collaboration with engineers at MIT to build an imaging device that surgeons could use to visualize the activated probes in cancer cells.

Damon Runyon's belief in him was well founded. A short three years later, David reports that his device has already been used extensively to detect residual cancer cells in mice. He now has more than half a million dollars of new grants to help translate this research into the operating room. The collaboration he formed with his MIT colleagues has attracted venture capital investment. He hopes to be conducting Phase I clinical trials in humans by fall of 2011.

If successful, David's project will enable thousands of patients to avoid the trauma of radiation and chemotherapy.

David says of his Innovation Award funding: “If this project hadn't been funded by Damon Runyon, I think I'd be putting my energies in other directions. And I doubt my work would have had the potential to impact so many lives.”

Keeping the **best** in cancer research.

Each year, a select few of our Fellows greatly exceed our very high expectations. To reward and encourage these young scientists—and to keep them focused on fighting cancer—we have created the new **Dale F. Frey Award for Breakthrough Scientists**, named in tribute to our outgoing Chairman.

This funding will catapult the careers and research of up to three Fellows per year, providing \$100,000 toward their research. More importantly, the award endorses each recipient as a next-generation leader, helping to ensure that our very best stay in cancer research.

The first recipients were chosen in Fall 2010, after this Report went to print.



16 years of outstanding leadership

Dale F. Frey

As Chairman of the Board of Directors from 1993 to 2010, Dale Frey transformed the Damon Runyon Cancer Research Foundation into a world-class philanthropy. Under his leadership, the Foundation raised more than \$160 million, launched three new award programs, and funded the research of more than 850 exceptional young scientists.

During this time, Damon Runyon scientists:

- Contributed to the development of three new targeted therapies: Herceptin, Erbitux and Bexxar
- Co-discovered the first breast cancer gene
- Used gene sequencing technology to predict response to treatment
- Elucidated the process of programmed cell death
- Cloned the first mice from adult stem cells
- Pioneered the field of RNA interference
- Discovered the link between HPV and head and neck cancer

Most importantly, thanks to Dale's leadership, the work of Damon Runyon scientists has transformed cancer medicine and will continue to save lives.

DAMON RUNYON

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John C. Dalton Professor
Department of Physiology and
Cellular Biophysics
Columbia University
New York, New York

2010

DAMON RUNYON Award Programs

DAMON RUNYON FELLOWSHIP AWARD

Supports the training of the brightest postdoctoral scientists as they embark upon their research careers. The funding enables them to be mentored by established investigators in leading research laboratories across the country.

THREE-YEAR AWARD

(stipend increased 1/10)

Basic Scientists: \$156,000
Physician-Scientists: \$186,000

DAMON RUNYON- RACHLEFF INNOVATION AWARD

Supports the next generation of exceptionally creative thinkers with high-risk, high-reward ideas that have the potential to significantly impact our understanding of and/or approaches to the prevention, diagnosis or treatment of cancer.

THREE-YEAR AWARD

\$450,000

This program is possible through a founding grant from Andrew and Debra Rachleff, and the support of the Island Outreach Foundation.

DAMON RUNYON CLINICAL INVESTIGATOR AWARD

Supports early career physician-scientists conducting patient-oriented research. The goal of this program is to increase the number of physicians capable of moving seamlessly between the laboratory and the patient's bedside in search of breakthrough treatments.

THREE-YEAR AWARD

\$450,000 plus up to \$100,000 for medical school loan repayment

CONTINUATION GRANT

Supports Damon Runyon Clinical Investigators who are approaching the end of their original three-year awards and need extra time and funding to complete a promising avenue of research or initiate/continue a clinical trial.

TWO-YEAR AWARD

\$300,000

This program is possible through the support of the William K. Bowes, Jr., Foundation, and Connie and Bob Lurie.



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Leader, Breast Cancer Program
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Research
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Frederick, Maryland

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Associate Professor
Department of Biological Chemistry and
Molecular Pharmacology
Harvard Medical School
Boston, Massachusetts

DAMON RUNYON Fellowship Awards

CALIFORNIA

Daniel H. Kim, PhD

"Epigenetic regulation of X-chromosome inactivation by noncoding RNAs" with Barbara J. Wold, PhD, California Institute of Technology, Pasadena

Gabriel C. Lander, PhD*

MERCK FELLOW

"Structural roles of enzymes and substrates in the construction of a microtubule platform that catalyzes APC-directed ubiquitination of spindle checkpoint proteins" with Eva Nogales, PhD, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, Berkeley

Sharsti L. Sandall, PhD

"Mechanisms regulating maintenance of stem cells and the niche in *Drosophila*" with D. Leanne Jones, PhD, Salk Institute for Biological Studies, La Jolla

Sarah E. Tully, PhD

CONRAD HILTON FELLOW

"A functional proteomic strategy to characterize endocannabinoid biosynthetic enzymes" with Benjamin F. Cravatt, III, PhD, The Scripps Research Institute, La Jolla

Sean C. Bendall, PhD

"Improved single-cell phospho-protein signaling analysis of oncogenic progression in leukemia" with Garry P. Nolan, PhD, Stanford University, Stanford

Won-Suk Chung, PhD

"Phagocytic capacity of glial cells and their role in glioma progression" with Ben A. Barres, MD, PhD, Stanford University, Stanford

Tom A. Hartl, PhD*

"Serotonergic neuronal control of growth in *Drosophila*" with Matthew P. Scott, PhD, Stanford University, Stanford

Liana F. Lareau, PhD

HOWARD HUGHES MEDICAL INSTITUTE FELLOW

"Global analysis of the role of 5' untranslated regions in the regulation of translation" with Patrick O. Brown, MD, PhD, Stanford University, Stanford

Benjamin R. Myers, PhD

"Analyzing the mechanism of Hedgehog signaling regulation by the Patched protein" with Philip A. Beachy, PhD, Stanford University, Stanford

Jason A. Reuter, PhD*

"Characterizing non-coding RNA interactions with dominant regulators of neuronal differentiation" with Michael P. Snyder, PhD, Stanford University, Stanford

Volker Schweikhard, PhD*

"A single-molecule study of factors TFIIIS and TFIIF during transcriptional elongation by RNA polymerase II" with Steven M. Block, PhD, Stanford University, Stanford

Sabrina L. Spencer, PhD*

"Protein expression dynamics and thresholds in cell cycle commitment" with Tobias Meyer, PhD, Stanford University, Stanford

Xiaomeng Milton Yu, PhD

"Investigating the mechanisms that determine localized axon degeneration during *Drosophila* mushroom body neuron pruning" with Liquan Luo, PhD, Stanford University, Stanford

Chitra V. Kotwaliwale, PhD

HOWARD HUGHES MEDICAL INSTITUTE FELLOW

"Regulation of meiotic chromosome behavior in *Caenorhabditis elegans*" with Abby F. Dernburg, PhD, University of California, Berkeley

Dipali G. Sashital, PhD

"Biochemical and structural investigation of Piwi-interacting RNA biogenesis" with Jennifer A. Doudna, PhD, University of California, Berkeley

Lara C. Skwarek, PhD*

"*In vivo* identification of novel regulators of epithelial-mesenchymal transition" with David Bilder, PhD, University of California, Berkeley

Orkun Akin, PhD

HOWARD HUGHES MEDICAL INSTITUTE FELLOW

"Live imaging of neuronal targeting in the *Drosophila* visual system with 2-photon microscopy" with S. Lawrence Zipursky, PhD, University of California, Los Angeles

Christopher J. Hale, PhD*

HOWARD HUGHES MEDICAL INSTITUTE FELLOW

"Understanding how a histone methyltransferase links DNA replication, repair and transcription" with Steve E. Jacobsen, PhD, University of California, Los Angeles

Christopher S. Campbell, PhD

"Control of the chromosomal passenger complex by post-translational modification" with Arshad B. Desai, PhD, University of California, San Diego

Erhu Cao, PhD

"Structure and physiology of sensory TRP channels" with David J. Julius, PhD, University of California, San Francisco

Lee Stirling Churchman, PhD

MERCK FELLOW

"Visualizing global transcription *in vivo* at nucleotide resolution" with Jonathan S. Weissman, PhD, University of California, San Francisco

Kimberley Evason, MD, PhD*†

"Hepatic stellate cell development and role in carcinogenesis" with Didier Y.R. Stainier, PhD, University of California, San Francisco

Gianna Elena Hammer, PhD

ROBERT BLACK FELLOW

"Coordination of dendritic cell maturation and immune responses by the ubiquitin modifying enzyme A20" with Averil Ma, MD, University of California, San Francisco

Dale Muzzey, PhD*

HOWARD HUGHES MEDICAL INSTITUTE FELLOW

"Resolving general principles of cis translational regulation in eukaryotes using high-throughput and mechanistic analyses of allelic expression in *Candida albicans*" with Jonathan S. Weissman, PhD, University of California, San Francisco

Avi Priel, PhD

"Looking for novel thermodetectors in the mammalian nervous system" with David J. Julius, PhD, University of California, San Francisco

Timothy O. Street, PhD

CONNIE AND BOB LURIE FELLOW

"Investigating the physical basis of substrate interaction with the HSP90 protein chaperone" with David A. Agard, PhD, University of California, San Francisco

Jesse Zalatan, PhD

"Elucidating the kinetic mechanism by which a scaffold protein regulates MAPK signaling" with Wendell A. Lim, PhD, University of California, San Francisco

COLORADO

Jianfu (Jeff) Chen, PhD

HOWARD HUGHES MEDICAL INSTITUTE FELLOW

"Epigenetic and cellular control of lung development" with Lee A. Niswander, PhD, University of Colorado Denver, Aurora

CONNECTICUT

Jelena Bezbradica, PhD

HOWARD HUGHES MEDICAL INSTITUTE FELLOW

"Molecular basis for transcription-independent cytokine regulation of immune responses" with Ruslan M. Medzhitov, PhD, Yale University, New Haven

Oscar R. Colegio, MD, PhD†

ROBERT BLACK FELLOW

"Defining the role of the innate immune system in tumor progression and metastasis" with Ruslan M. Medzhitov, PhD, Yale University, New Haven

Kristina M. Herbert, PhD

HOWARD HUGHES MEDICAL INSTITUTE FELLOW

"Regulation and mechanism of pri-miRNA processing by Drosha and DGCR8" with Joan A. Steitz, PhD, Yale University, New Haven

ILLINOIS

Brian J. Yeh, PhD

"Determining how a conserved signaling network establishes cell fate asymmetry" with Eric L. Weiss, PhD, Northwestern University, Chicago

MARYLAND

Nicholas R. Guydosh, PhD*

HOWARD HUGHES MEDICAL INSTITUTE FELLOW

"Genome-wide regulation and dynamics of ribosome elongation" with Rachel D. Green, PhD, The Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore

Chuan-Hsiang Huang, MD, PhD

HAROLD L. PLOTNICK FELLOW

"Adaptation and gradient amplification in the chemotaxis signaling pathway" with Peter N. Devreotes, PhD, The Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore

Robin E. Stanley, PhD*

"Structural and biochemical characterization of the autophagy specific class 3 phosphatidylinositol 3-phosphate complex" with James H. Hurley, PhD, National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases, Bethesda

MASSACHUSETTS

David G. Hendrickson, PhD*

"A guiding role for lincRNAs in the establishment of cancer-like epigenetic landscapes" with John L. Rinn, PhD, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Boston

"Funding from Damon Runyon allowed me to stretch out into new areas and think about things differently. That thinking led directly to where we are today: a new discovery in the field of cancer-cell metabolism that has great therapeutic potential."

Matthew G. Vander Heiden, MD, PhD
Former Damon Runyon Fellow
Assistant Professor, MIT, Cambridge

Costas A. Lyssiotis, PhD*

AMGEN FELLOW

"Reversing the Warburg effect in basal-like breast cancer: a unique point for therapeutic intervention" with Lewis C. Cantley, PhD, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Boston

Alexandra M. Deaconescu, PhD

HOWARD HUGHES MEDICAL INSTITUTE FELLOW

"Elucidation of the mechanism of transcription-DNA repair coupling" with Nikolaus Grigorieff, PhD, Brandeis University, Waltham

Michael J. Emanuele, PhD

PHILIP O'BRYAN MONTGOMERY, JR., MD, FELLOW

"Identification and characterization of proteins with altered stabilities in response to DNA damage" with Stephen J. Elledge, PhD, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston

Xu Tan, PhD

"Study of the BRCA1 A complex in DNA damage response" with Stephen J. Elledge, PhD, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston

Sujun Hua, PhD*

"Genomic analysis of core transcriptional regulatory networks in normal and malignant neural stem cells" with Ronald A. DePinho, MD, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Boston

Akinyemi I. Ojesina, MBBS, PhD

REBECCA RIDLEY KRY FELLOW

"Pathogen discovery and genomic characterization of infection-associated lymphomas" with Matthew Meyerson, MD, PhD, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Boston

Eric J. Bennett, PhD

"Deubiquitylating enzymes as molecular regulators of oncogenesis" with J. Wade Harper, PhD, Harvard Medical School, Boston

Jason M. Crawford, PhD

"Systematic approaches to discovering bioactive bacterial metabolites" with Jon Clardy, PhD, Harvard Medical School, Boston

Harrison W. Gabel, PhD*

"Dissecting the mechanism and function of Arc regulation by the Angelman Syndrome-associated ubiquitin ligase Ube3a" with Michael E. Greenberg, PhD, Harvard Medical School, Boston

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"Structural and functional studies of kinetochores" with Stephen C. Harrison, PhD, Harvard Medical School, Boston

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"The molecular mechanism of poly (ADP-ribose) in the mitotic spindle" with Timothy J. Mitchison, PhD, Harvard Medical School, Boston

Young Kwon, PhD

"Identification and validation of new regulators in Hpo signaling" with Norbert Perrimon, PhD, Harvard Medical School, Boston

John R. Lydeard, PhD*

"Defining CRL4 substrates and regulators through a systematic proteomic and functional analysis of DCAFs" with J. Wade Harper, PhD, Harvard Medical School, Boston

Rebecca S. Mathew, PhD*

HOWARD HUGHES MEDICAL INSTITUTE FELLOW

"Understanding the functions of the CLRC ubiquitin ligase/histone methylase complex in heterochromatin formation" with Danesh Moazed, PhD, Harvard Medical School, Boston

Elizabeth S. Sattely, PhD

"Biosynthesis of covalent bonds between heteroatoms: mechanistic understanding for the development of novel therapeutics" with Christopher T. Walsh, PhD, Harvard Medical School, Boston

Ilan Wapinski, PhD

HOWARD HUGHES MEDICAL INSTITUTE FELLOW

"Unraveling the costs and benefits of gene expression on cellular growth" with Roy Kishony, PhD, Harvard Medical School, Boston

Dong Yan, PhD*

HOWARD HUGHES MEDICAL INSTITUTE FELLOW

"Building a kinase and phosphatase network using phosphorylation signatures" with Norbert Perrimon, PhD, Harvard Medical School, Boston

Alexandra Zidovska, PhD*

"Cell division under confinement: exploring mechanisms for cell division and volume regulation" with Timothy J. Mitchison, PhD, Harvard Medical School, Boston

Niels Bradshaw, PhD*

"Regulation of the SpoIIE phosphatase and activation of a cell-specific transcription factor" with Richard M. Losick, PhD, Harvard University, Cambridge

William J. Greenleaf, PhD

"Fluorogenic single-molecule fluorescence enzymology" with X. Sunney Xie, PhD, Harvard University, Cambridge

Yoh Isogai, PhD

"Molecular mechanisms of innate defensive behaviors in rodents" with Catherine Dulac, PhD, Harvard University, Cambridge

Josselin Milloz, PhD

"Coordination of quiescence, meiosis and autophagy in the yeast *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*" with Sharad Ramanathan, PhD, Harvard University, Cambridge

Melanie A. Samuel, PhD

"Molecular basis of age-related synaptic disorganization" with Joshua R. Sanes, PhD, Harvard University, Cambridge

Sarah K. Bowman, PhD

"Characterization of nucleosome positioning in Polycomb-mediated gene repression" with Robert E. Kingston, PhD, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston

Ken S. Lau, PhD

ROBERT BLACK FELLOW

"Elucidation of a novel signaling network downstream of KRas in colorectal cancer" with Kevin M. Haigis, PhD, and Douglas A. Lauffenburger, PhD, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston

Taiowa A. Montgomery, PhD

"Mechanisms of microRNA-directed RNA silencing" with Gary B. Ruvkun, PhD, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston

Carolyn M. Phillips, PhD

MARION ABBE FELLOW

"Characterization of chromatin-associated factors in small RNA pathways" with Gary B. Ruvkun, PhD, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston

Ian Y. Wong, PhD*

MERCK FELLOW

"Suppressing cancer cell invasion and plasticity in 3D microenvironments" with Mehmet Toner, PhD, and Daniel Irimia, MD, PhD, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston

DAMON RUNYON Fellowship Awards (continued)

Nadya Dimitrova, PhD

BLOUNT FAMILY FELLOW

"Functional characterization of the role of p53-regulated lincRNAs in tumorigenesis" with Tyler Jacks, PhD, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge

Nikhil S. Joshi, PhD*

"Understanding the development and function of regulatory T cells in an autochthonous mouse model of human non-small cell lung cancer" with Tyler Jacks, PhD, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge

Yimon Aye, PhD

ROBERT BLACK FELLOW

"Investigations toward mechanistic understanding of human ribonucleotide reductase β -subunit-specific inhibition by triapine" with JoAnne Stubbe, PhD, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge

Robert K. Bradley, PhD

"Investigating the splicing co-regulatory network" with Christopher B. Burge, PhD, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge

Daniel A. Heller, PhD*

"Molecularly imprinted polymeric antibodies for tumor-targeted siRNA delivery" with Robert S. Langer, ScD, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge

Adam G.W. Matthews, PhD

FRATERNAL ORDER OF EAGLES FELLOW

"Defining the architecture of human DNA replication origins" with Stephen P. Bell, PhD, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge

William Rodney Hardy, PhD

"Elucidation of signal transduction pathways controlling oncogene-induced senescence and their protective roles against melanoma and breast cancer" with Michael R. Green, MD, PhD, University of Massachusetts Medical School, Worcester

Elaine M. Youngman, PhD

KENNETH G. AND ELAINE A. LANGONE FELLOW

"Analysis of the biogenesis and functions of endogenous small RNAs in *Caenorhabditis elegans*" with Craig C. Mello, PhD, University of Massachusetts Medical School, Worcester

Meelad M. Dawlaty, PhD*

"Deciphering the genetics and epigenetics of glioblastomagenesis by direct *in vitro* reprogramming of glioblastoma multiforme progenitor cells" with Rudolf Jaenisch, MD, Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research, Cambridge

Daniel F. Jarosz, PhD

HOWARD HUGHES MEDICAL INSTITUTE FELLOW

"The influence of Hsp90 on the relationship between genotype and phenotype" with Susan L. Lindquist, PhD, Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research, Cambridge

Jared T. Nordman, PhD

HOWARD HUGHES MEDICAL INSTITUTE FELLOW

"Cell cycle control of DNA replication in metazoans" with Terry L. Orr-Weaver, PhD, Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research, Cambridge

Alla A. Sigova, PhD

ROBERT BLACK FELLOW

"Genetic and epigenetic mechanisms of maintaining the embryonic stem cell identity" with Richard A. Young, PhD, Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research, Cambridge

MISSOURI

Ken Cadwell, PhD

LALLAGE FEAZEL WALL FELLOW

"Characterization of mice deficient in autophagy protein ATG16" with Herbert W. Virgin, IV, MD, PhD, Washington University, St. Louis

Tiffany A. Reese, PhD

"The immune response to latent gamma herpesvirus infection" with Herbert W. Virgin, IV, MD, PhD, Washington University, St. Louis

NEW JERSEY

Björn F.C. Kafsack, PhD*

HOWARD HUGHES MEDICAL INSTITUTE FELLOW

"Density-dependent autocrine control of gametocytogenesis in the virulent malaria parasite *Plasmodium falciparum*" with Manuel Llinás, PhD, Princeton University, Princeton

NEW YORK

Duncan J. Smith, PhD*

HOWARD HUGHES MEDICAL INSTITUTE FELLOW

"Lagging strand synthesis and chromatin replication" with Iestyn Whitehouse, PhD, Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, New York

Jelena Nedjic, PhD*

"Molecular mechanisms of leukemia metastasis and tissue infiltration" with Iannis Aifantis, PhD, New York University School of Medicine, New York

Lu Bai, PhD

SUZANNE AND BOB WRIGHT FELLOW

"Promoter architecture for genes in the G1/S regulon: rules governing nucleosome positioning, noise, amplitude and regulation in gene expression" with Frederick R. Cross, PhD, and Eric D. Siggia, PhD, The Rockefeller University, New York

Laura A. Banaszynski, PhD

ANGELO FAMILY FELLOW

"Investigating the role of histone variants in determining cellular identity" with C. David Allis, PhD, The Rockefeller University, New York

Erik W. Deblér, PhD

DALE F. AND BETTY ANN FREY FELLOW

"Assembly and structure of the nuclear pore complex scaffold" with Günter Blobel, MD, PhD, The Rockefeller University, New York

"The fellows chosen by Damon Runyon often go on to be world-class leaders in their fields. I feel honored to join their ranks and am inspired to match their achievements."

Sabrina L. Spencer, PhD

Damon Runyon Fellow
Stanford University School of Medicine, Stanford

Jung-Min Kee, PhD

LEO W. AND LILYAN G. COLE FUND FELLOW

"Investigation of histidine phosphorylation in histone H4 through synthetic protein chemistry" with Thomas W. Muir, PhD, The Rockefeller University, New York

OREGON

Sunny D. Gilbert, PhD

"Mechanisms of RNA silencing selectivity" with James C. Carrington, PhD, Oregon State University, Corvallis

Christopher A. Johnston, PharmD, PhD

DENNIS AND MARSHA DAMMERMAN FELLOW

"Implementation of a novel system in *Drosophila* S2 cells for investigating asymmetric cell division" with Kenneth E. Prehoda, PhD, and Chris Q. Doe, PhD, University of Oregon, Eugene

TENNESSEE

Matthew F. Calabrese, PhD

HOWARD HUGHES MEDICAL INSTITUTE FELLOW

"Ubiquitin interactions with a novel ubiquitin recognition motif" with Brenda A. Schulman, PhD, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, Memphis

UTAH

Elizabeth M. Duncan, PhD*

HOWARD HUGHES MEDICAL INSTITUTE FELLOW

"Epigenetic regulation of cellular memory during planarian regeneration" with Alejandro Sánchez Alvarado, PhD, University of Utah, Salt Lake City

* Initial Award

† Physician-Scientist



DAMON RUNYON-RACHLEFF Innovation Award Committee

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Director, Molecular Imaging Program
Head, Nuclear Medicine Division
Professor of Radiology and Bioengineering
Stanford University School of Medicine
Stanford, California

DAMON RUNYON-RACHLEFF Innovation Award

CALIFORNIA

Sarkis K. Mazmanian, PhD

"Host-bacterial immunomodulation in the development of cancer" at the California Institute of Technology, Pasadena

Heather R. Christofk, PhD*

"Regulation of cancer metabolism" at the University of California, Los Angeles

MASSACHUSETTS

John L. Rinn, PhD

"The functional roles of large intergenic non-coding RNAs in cancer" at the Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Boston

Nathanael S. Gray, PhD

"Identification of kinase substrates using selective irreversible crosslinkers" at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Boston

Todd R. Golub, MD

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Greg Hannon, PhD

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Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory
Cold Spring Harbor, New York

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New York, New York

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Professor and Chair
Department of Cellular and Molecular Pharmacology
University of California, San Francisco
San Francisco, California

Elizabeth Yang, MD, PhD

Director, Sickle Cell and Hemoglobinopathy Program
Associate Professor of Pediatric Hematology-Oncology
Vanderbilt University Medical Center
Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center
Nashville, Tennessee

Joshua C. Munger, PhD*

"Elucidating mechanisms of oncogenic metabolic manipulation" at the University of Rochester, Rochester

NORTH CAROLINA

David G. Kirsch, MD, PhD

"Transforming cancer therapy with molecular imaging" at Duke University Medical Center, Durham

WASHINGTON

Muneesh Tewari, MD, PhD

"Cancer detection in 'pre-diagnosis' blood samples via exosome-associated small RNAs" at Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, Seattle



DAMON RUNYON

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Boston, Massachusetts

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Associate Director for Cancer Prevention and Control Cancer Center
St. Jude Children's Research Hospital
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Sue and Radcliffe Killam Chair
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M.D. Anderson Cancer Center
The University of Texas
Houston, Texas

David A. Williams, MD

Chief, Division of Hematology/Oncology
Director, Translational Research for Children's Hospital Boston
Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
Leland Fikes Chair of Pediatrics
Harvard Medical School
Boston, Massachusetts

DAMON RUNYON

Clinical Investigator Awards

CONNECTICUT

Tobias J.E. Carling, MD, PhD*

[DORIS DUKE-DAMON RUNYON CLINICAL INVESTIGATOR](#)

"Molecular genetics of endocrine tumor disease" with Richard P. Lifton, MD, PhD, and Robert Udelsman, MD, MBA, Yale University School of Medicine, New Haven

ILLINOIS

Vu H. Nguyen, MD

[AUGUST M. WATANABE, MD, CLINICAL INVESTIGATOR](#)

"Organ-specific regulatory T cells as a targeted therapy for graft-versus-host disease" with Thomas F. Gajewski, MD, PhD, The University of Chicago, Chicago

MASSACHUSETTS

Rachael A. Clark, MD, PhD

"Reversing immune evasion in human squamous cell carcinomas of the skin" with Thomas S. Kupper, MD, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston

Andrew T. Chan, MD, MPH

"Molecular imaging of colorectal neoplasia" with Charles S. Fuchs, MD, MPH, and Ralph Weissleder, MD, PhD, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston

MICHIGAN

Ronald J. Buckanovich, MD, PhD

"Tumor endothelial cells as a therapeutic and diagnostic target in ovarian cancer" with Daniel F. Hayes, MD, and Max S. Wicha, MD, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

N. Lynn Henry, MD, PhD*

[LILLY CLINICAL INVESTIGATOR](#)

"Pain processing pathway analysis in aromatase inhibitor-associated musculoskeletal syndrome" with Daniel F. Hayes, MD, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

MINNESOTA

Andrew L. Feldman, MD

"Investigation of IRF4 as a therapeutic target in T-Cell Lymphomas" with Stephen M. Ansell, MD, PhD, and Ahmet Dogan, MD, PhD, Mayo Clinic, Rochester

NEW JERSEY

Vassiliki Karantz, MD, PhD

"Autophagy as a therapeutic target in breast cancer treatment" with Robert S. DiPaola, MD, UMDNJ/Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, New Brunswick

NEW YORK

Igor Matushansky, MD, PhD*

[GORDON FAMILY CLINICAL INVESTIGATOR](#)

"Implementing and imaging epigenetic based differentiation therapy for solid tumors" with Carlos Cordon-Cardo, MD, PhD, Columbia University, New York

NORTH CAROLINA

William Y. Kim, PhD

[MERCK CLINICAL INVESTIGATOR](#)

"Molecular determinants of clinical response to EGFR inhibition in bladder cancer" with Charles M. Perou, PhD, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

C. Ryan Miller, MD, PhD

[GENENTECH CLINICAL INVESTIGATOR](#)

"Genomics-driven drug development for glioblastoma" with Charles M. Perou, PhD, and Terry Van Dyke, PhD, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

WASHINGTON

Elahe A. Mostaghel, MD, PhD

[GENENTECH CLINICAL INVESTIGATOR](#)

"Defining and exploiting molecular mechanisms of androgen metabolism for prostate cancer therapy" with Peter S. Nelson, MD, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, Seattle

Brian G. Till, MD*

[PFIZER CLINICAL INVESTIGATOR](#)

"Optimization of adoptive immunotherapy for lymphoma using genetically modified CD20-specific T cells" with Oliver W. Press, MD, PhD, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, Seattle

WISCONSIN

Kevin R. Kozak, MD, PhD*

[GENENTECH CLINICAL INVESTIGATOR](#)

"Radiosensitization with antiangiogenic therapy" with Paul M. Harari, MD, University of Wisconsin, Madison

This award program is currently supported by founding sponsor Eli Lilly and Company in addition to Genentech, Merck and Company, Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation, Siemens Medical Solutions, Inc. and Pfizer, Inc.

* Initial Award

DAMON RUNYON

Clinical Investigator Award Continuation Grants

COLORADO

Douglas K. Graham, MD, PhD

[NOVARTIS CLINICAL INVESTIGATOR](#)

"Novel biologically targeted therapy against the Mer receptor tyrosine kinase in the treatment of pediatric ALL" with James V. DeGregori, PhD, and Sue Gail Eckhardt, MD, University of Colorado Denver, Aurora

MARYLAND

Patrick A. Brown, MD

[LILLY CLINICAL INVESTIGATOR](#)

"Translating FLT3 inhibition into improved outcome for high risk childhood leukemia" with Donald Small, MD, PhD, The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Baltimore

Andrea L. Cox, MD, PhD

"Analysis and manipulation of cross reactive immune responses to partial escape mutation in chronic Hepatitis C virus infection" with Drew M. Pardoll, MD, PhD, The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Baltimore

MASSACHUSETTS

Catherine J. Wu, MD

"Immune-targeted leukemia antigens for eradication of CML stem cells" with Jerome Ritz, MD, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Boston

NEW YORK

Renier J. Brentjens, MD, PhD

[LILLY CLINICAL INVESTIGATOR](#)

"Adoptive therapy of B cell leukemias with genetically modified autologous T cells" with Michel Sadelain, MD, PhD, Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, New York

WASHINGTON

Colleen S. Delaney, MD, MSc

[NOVARTIS CLINICAL INVESTIGATOR](#)

"Notch-mediated ex vivo expansion of cord blood progenitors for hematopoietic cell transplantation" with Irwin D. Bernstein, MD, and Frederick R. Appelbaum, MD, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, Seattle

The Continuation Grant Program is supported by the William K. Bowes, Jr., Foundation, and Connie and Bob Lurie.

Thank you to our donors.

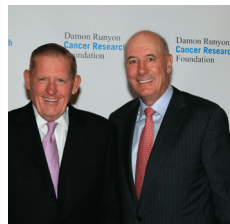
July 1st, 2009 – June 30th, 2010

When you give to Damon Runyon, your donations directly fund top cancer scientists. Every new discovery they make is directly linked to your support, and they, and we, are immensely grateful for the generosity and dedication of all of our donors. This year, through your donations, we were able to continue funding the most promising research and launch a new award to support and encourage the next generation of scientific leaders.

DALE F. FREY TRIBUTE EVENT



Clockwise from left: Betty Ann and Dale Frey and family; Dr. Sam Silverstein as a Runyonesque character; Larry Bossidy and John Myers.



DAMON RUNYON 5K AT YANKEE STADIUM



Clockwise from left: The Runyon 5K Kids' Fun Run; a runner on the warning track; participants in the Great Hall.



The year in review

We raised a record \$7 million at an event honoring our past Chairman, Dale Frey, to establish **The Dale F. Frey Award for Breakthrough Scientists**, which will provide additional funding to the “best of the best” Damon Runyon Fellows. The dinner, held at New York City's Metropolitan Club, included a video tribute to Mr. Frey featuring NBC Nightly News anchor Brian Williams, Mayor Michael Bloomberg and Donald Trump.

The Runyon 5K, a unique run/walk that takes place inside Yankee Stadium, made its debut in the same year the Yankees won the World Series. The event raised \$300,000 and introduced thousands of new donors to the Foundation. Over 2,000 people took part, including cancer survivors, Damon Runyon scientists and exuberant Yankees fans. Thanks to Walgreens, 24 Hour Fitness, WNBC 4 New York, SIRIUS XM Radio and the New York Post for sponsoring this successful event.

Eli Lilly and Co., founding partner of our **Clinical Investigator Award**, generously pledged an additional \$2.25 million to fund our prestigious Clinical Investigator Award, bringing its total commitment to this program to an unprecedented \$30 million. This continued endorsement reflects the caliber of the research being carried out by these talented investigators. Thanks also to Genentech, Merck and Co., Novartis Pharmaceuticals, Siemens Medical Solutions and Pfizer Inc., for their support of this vitally important program.

Damon Runyon Broadway Tickets continues to help support our overhead expenses, enabling us to give 100% of all direct donations to cancer research. Thanks once again to the Shubert Organization, Nederlander Productions, Jujamcyn Theaters and Disney Theatrical Productions whose valued partnerships make this program possible.

Ways to give

HELP FUND BREAKTHROUGHS IN YOUR WILL OR TRUST

When you remember the Damon Runyon Cancer Research Foundation in your will or estate plan, you ensure that future generations continue to see new advances against cancer. There are planned giving strategies that can provide tax benefits. Please contact us for details.

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Sponsor an individual Damon Runyon scientist and play an active role in making breakthroughs happen. We will name the award for you, your family, or in honor of someone you choose. All sponsors are offered the opportunity to meet with their scientist. We also provide regular updates on their research.

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We welcome all levels of donation, whether it's a one-time gift or a monthly donation. You can donate by mail, by phone, or by using our secure website, www.damonrunyon.org. We also welcome securities. All donations are tax-deductible and fund our research programs.

TRIBUTES

Make a donation in memory of someone, or to commemorate a holiday, birthday, wedding, or special occasion. A tribute letter will be sent on your behalf to the person you designate.

DAMON RUNYON BROADWAY TICKETS

Enjoy access to top ‘house’ seats at Broadway shows and support cancer research. Gift certificates are also available, and allow the recipient to choose a show and date. Call 212.455.0550, or visit www.damonrunyon.org/broadway.

To learn more about ways to support the Damon Runyon Cancer Research Foundation, contact us at 212.455.0500, or visit us at www.damonrunyon.org/donate

100% of donations fund cancer research.

All administrative and fundraising expenses are paid through Damon Runyon Broadway Tickets and our endowment.



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The following awards are funded by dedicated supporters of the **Damon Runyon Cancer Research Foundation** who have generously endowed an award in perpetuity or sponsored an individual Damon Runyon scientist:

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Cambridge, Massachusetts

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Memphis, Tennessee

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Aurora, Colorado

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Salt Lake City, Utah

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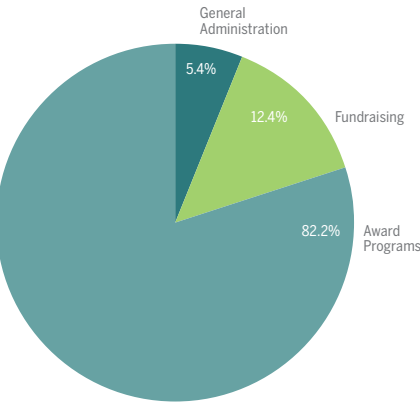
As in previous years, the financial activities of the Damon Runyon Cancer Research Foundation were audited by McGladrey and Pullen, LLP. For our complete audited financial statements, please visit our website at www.damonrunyon.org.

Overall Financial Health—Summary of Balance Sheets

The Damon Runyon Cancer Research Foundation remained fiscally strong in FY 2010. Thanks to our donors, our revenues grew, enabling us to expand our scientific program funding.

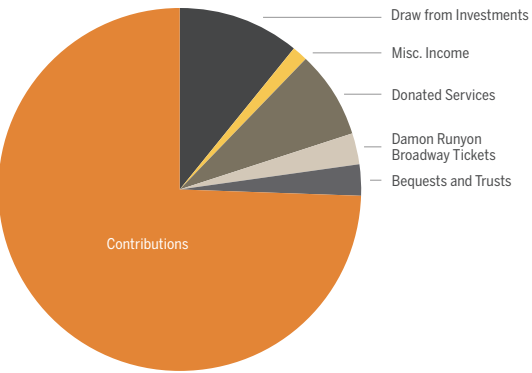
	2009	2010
TOTAL ASSETS	82,223,404	92,257,373
TOTAL LIABILITIES	15,249,307	15,513,605
TOTAL NET ASSETS	66,974,098	76,743,768

Where Our Money Goes—Summary of Operating Expenses



Total Operating Expenses
\$11.8 million

Where Our Support Comes From



Total Operating Revenue
\$17.52 million

“The generous support provided by the Damon Runyon Fellowship was instrumental in keeping me in cancer research at a time in my career when it was a personal and financial struggle for me to stay in science. I will always be grateful.”

Matthew L. Meyerson, MD, PhD

Professor of Pathology
Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
Harvard Medical School

“The Damon Runyon Clinical Investigator Award is THE reason that I stayed and pursued an academic career in cancer research. Indeed, the award was a turning point in my career. It gave me the protected time to develop my research, and the funding to start a new population-based case-control colon genetic epidemiology study. Without the support from Damon Runyon, it would be impossible for a junior investigator to launch an ambitious project like this.”

Li Li, MD, PhD

Associate Professor
Case Comprehensive Cancer Center
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“The Damon Runyon Fellowship really propelled my career forward and I am enormously grateful—it was the best thing that happened to me as a young, up-and-coming scientist. When I was funded by Damon Runyon in the early 1990’s to study basic aspects of mitochondria as a postdoc, it was not clear how my research was connected directly to cancer. Now, in my own lab, we have an NIH-funded project to study this exact connection. In other words, I was not a cancer researcher then, but through the support of Damon Runyon at that critical juncture, I am one now.”

Gerald S. Shadel, PhD

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