WE ARE EXPANDING OUR PROGRAMS BY 33%

This is the most promising and exciting time in the history of cancer research. We are on the cusp of major breakthroughs, and we need the greatest scientific minds to capitalize on this opportunity.

For 68 years, the Damon Runyon Cancer Research Foundation’s role has been to find brilliant and daring young scientists and provide them with funding, mentorship and a community that will enable them to do groundbreaking work.

Beginning this year, we will be doing even more. Our Board of Directors has approved an aggressive 33% increase in our research funding to expand our existing programs and launch an important new initiative.
WE ARE INCREASING OUR SUPPORT OF THE BEST AND BRIGHTEST FELLOWS

After a young scientist receives her PhD, the next step is a postdoctoral fellowship. It is during this crucial time that she chooses the direction of her future research, working in partnership with a mentor who will guide and advise her, helping her become the best scientist she can be.

The most brilliant and talented of these postdoctoral fellows are selected from a highly competitive applicant pool to receive a Damon Runyon Fellowship Award. Damon Runyon Fellows are energetic, bold and driven. With our recruitment and support, their track record of success is unparalleled.

Until now, we provided three years of support to Damon Runyon Fellows. Because it now takes longer to complete their research and transition to an independent position, we have added funding for a fourth year.

Our fellows are elated by the news.

Damon Runyon Fellows: An Impressive Track Record

- First to cure a solid tumor with chemotherapy
- Identified the first cancer-causing gene
- Pioneered the field of chemoprevention
- Co-discovered BRCA1, a breast cancer gene
- First to use genomics to predict response to cancer therapy
- and the list goes on....

Damon Runyon Fellows: An Impressively Long Track Record

*First to cure a solid tumor with chemotherapy*
*Identified the first cancer-causing gene*
*Pioneered the field of chemoprevention*
*Co-discovered BRCA1, a breast cancer gene*
*First to use genomics to predict response to cancer therapy*
*and the list goes on....*

This is Absolutely Amazing News!

It says a lot about the Foundation that you were willing to review your fellowship program and actually made changes based on what you felt was best for your trainees. You don't often come across an organization that is truly invested in supporting its award recipients, especially if it means a lot of work on the Foundation's end!

Leah Sabin, PhD
Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory
Exploring the role of IncRNAs in blood cell development and cancers

Damon Runyon is the First

funding source to acknowledge that biomedical postdoctoral fellowships now routinely last 4-6 years. Other fellowships would be wise to emulate this trendsetting decision.

Jakob von Moltke, PhD
HHMI Fellow
University of California, San Francisco
Understanding the immune system’s function in wound healing and its potential connection to tumor development
THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU.

I cannot begin to tell you how important this is to me and to my science. I am truly stunned. At a time when the entire funding universe is stepping back, you are moving forward. I am honored, and humbled, to be associated with this amazing organization.

Leo D. Wang, MD, PhD
Damon Runyon-Sohn Fellow
Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
Targeting leukemia stem cells to overcome drug resistance in pediatric cancers

NOT ONLY DOES THIS MAKE THE DAMON RUNYON FELLOWSHIP THE PREMIER POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP, it also demonstrates to us scientists how much support and faith your contributors have in biomedical research. I applaud Damon Runyon for championing the belief that breakthroughs in human health come from fresh and innovative ways of thinking.

Gabriela Monsalve, PhD
Robert Black Fellow
University of California, San Francisco
Improving the effectiveness of glucocorticoids in cancer treatment

IN THIS INCREASINGLY UNCERTAIN FUNDING CLIMATE,

I congratulate Damon Runyon in its unwavering efforts to support young scientists. Less time writing for funding directly translates into more time thinking about and performing innovative science.

Melanie Issigonis, PhD
HHMI Fellow
University of Illinois
Exploring germ cell genetic pathways and their potential role in cancer development

I AM THRILLED.

[An extra year] means I can simply focus 100% on science for my postdoctoral training period. My mentor and I appreciate the generous support from the Foundation and hope that our project can lead to significant breakthroughs in cancer research to repay the trust of the Foundation and the donors.

Chao Lu, PhD
Kandarian Family Fellow
The Rockefeller University
Understanding how gene expression goes awry in pediatric brain tumors and sarcomas
WE WILL RECRUIT THE NEXT GENERATION OF PHYSICIAN-SCIENTISTS

Many of the greatest breakthroughs of the 20th century came from physicians who treated patients dying from cancer. Frustrated by their inability to cure their patients, they were determined to find new ways to save them. Today, physicians remain the critical connection between the lab and cancer patients, working closely with their PhD counterparts to develop new treatments.

SIDNEY FARBER, MD
- Pioneered the field of pediatric oncology. His work and that of Emil Frei, MD, and Emil Freireich, MD, resulted in combination chemotherapy treatments that have increased childhood acute leukemia survival rates to 90%.

MIN CHIU LI, MD
- First used chemotherapy to cure metastatic cancer. He was a Damon Runyon Fellow from 1953–1955.

JUDAH FOLKMAN, MD
- Demonstrated that tumors grow their own blood vessel supply, leading to new treatments for colorectal, breast, brain, and other cancers.

JANET D. ROWLEY, MD
- Identified chromosomal translocations as the cause of mutations giving rise to leukemias.

IN RECENT DECADES, FEWER AND FEWER PHYSICIANS ARE CHOOSING RESEARCH CAREERS, driven away by lack of training opportunities, lower salaries than in clinical careers, and large medical school loans.

Because we cannot afford to lose the critical insights these physician-scientists bring to the laboratory and clinic alike, we are launching a new award program to recruit top medical school graduates into cancer research. Our Physician-Scientist Training Award will provide the funding, mentorship, research time, and loan repayment necessary to transform top young physicians into leading cancer researchers.

BRIAN J. DRUKER, MD & CHARLES L. SAWYERS, MD
- Relentlessly sought a drug that could inhibit the effect of the genetic mutation that causes chronic myeloid leukemia. The result is Gleevec, which turned a universally fatal cancer into a treatable disease.

BERT VOGELSTEIN, MD
- Established the field of cancer genomics, proving that sequential mutations give rise to colorectal and other cancers.

CARL H. JUNE, MD
- Developed gene therapies that use a patient’s own immune system to fight blood, pancreatic, and other cancers.
WE ARE BECOMING MORE SAVVY INVESTORS IN INNOVATION

While working as a researcher at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute in Boston, James (Jay) E. Bradner, MD, was determined to target the “master regulators” of cancer cells, the genes that transform normal cells into cancer cells. Other researchers had tried to target these elusive genes, but it had proved so difficult that most efforts had been abandoned.

Jay was not ready to give up on the idea even though others said it was impossible. Instead, he applied for a Damon Runyon-Rachleff Innovation Award designed to fund risky ideas that, if successful, could transform cancer treatment. As an Innovator, Jay has developed new compounds to target master regulators, now being tested in patients, and has founded several biotechnology companies to further his drug development work. He shares his findings with any researcher who requests them, believing open-source collaboration accelerates progress.

JAY’S IDEA WAS BOLD, UNTESTED, AND ULTIMATELY SUCCESSFUL. OUR GOAL IS TO FIND EVEN MORE IDEAS LIKE THIS.

Going forward, our Innovation Award will invest more deeply in daring new ideas. Instead of three years of funding, we will give each new Innovation Award recipient two years of funding to test their idea. At that point, they will present their progress to our Innovation Award Committee, comprised of proven innovators in cancer research. The Committee will determine whether the idea continues to show promise. Those that do will get two more years of funding to see the work through to its potentially transformational conclusion.

When treated with Jay’s compound, cancer cells “turn back” into normal cells. A new drug developed from this research called TEN-010 is currently being tested in phase I clinical trials on patients with a range of cancers.
investment in cancer research means more support for the next generation of scientists to conduct work that will lay the foundation for careers filled with untold discoveries. It means more laboratory breakthroughs will be translated into cures for patients. It means more revolutionary new ideas will have a chance to change the way we think about treating and diagnosing cancer.

33% MORE

IT MEANS MORE CANCER RESEARCH THAT SAVES LIVES.
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Chairman and Chief Executive Officer
Beacon Capital Partners, LLC
Boston, Massachusetts

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Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
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DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS
MR. DAVID M. BEIRNE
Chairman
Fantex Holdings, Inc.
Coral Gables, Florida
DAMON RUNYON
AWARD PROGRAMS

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 approaches to the prevention, diagnosis or treatment of cancer.

TWO-YEAR AWARD:
$300,000, possibility of extension of an additional $300,000

Damon Runyon Clinical Investigator Award
Supports early career physical scientists conducting patient-oriented research. The goal of this innovative 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

Damon Runyon Clinical Investigator 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

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

FOUR-YEAR AWARD:
Basic Scientists: $208,000
Physician-Scientists: $248,000

Damon Runyon-Sohn Pediatric Cancer Fellowship Award
Supports dedicated basic scientists and clinicians who conduct research with the potential to significantly impact the prevention, diagnosis or treatment of one or more pediatric cancers.

FOUR-YEAR AWARD:
Basic Scientists: $208,000
Physician-Scientists: $248,000

Dale F. Frey Award for Breakthrough Scientists
Supports a select few Damon Runyon Fellows who have greatly exceeded the Foundation’s highest expectations. This additional investment in these exceptional individuals will help catapult their research careers and their impact on cancer.

TWO-YEAR AWARD:
$100,000
DAMON RUNYON-RACHLEFF INNOVATION AWARD COMMITTEE

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Director, The Ludwig Center for Cancer Genetics and Therapeutics
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Kimmel Cancer Center
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CEO, James Cancer Hospital and Solove Research Institute
JL Marakas Nationwide Insurance Enterprise Foundation Professor of Cancer Research
Professor, Departments of Internal Medicine and Molecular Virology, Immunology, and Medical Genetics
The Ohio State University
Columbus, Ohio

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Professor of Cell and Molecular Biology
Institute Investigator
Howard Hughes Medical Institute
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University of California, San Diego
La Jolla, California

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Head, Nuclear Medicine Division
Professor of Radiology, Biomedical Engineering and Engineering Materials Science
Stanford University School of Medicine
Stanford, California

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American Cancer Society Research Professor and Chair
Department of Microbiology and Immunology
J. Michael Bishop, MD, Distinguished Professor
University of California, San Francisco
Leader, Cancer, Immunity and Microenvironment Program
UCSF Helen Diller Family Comprehensive Cancer Center
San Francisco, California

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Professor, Department of Molecular Biology and Genetics
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Professor
Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory
Cold Spring Harbor, New York

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Pels Family Professor
Head, Laboratory of Chemistry and Cell Biology
The Rockefeller University
New York, New York

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Associate Professor of Pharmacology and Cancer Biology
Duke University Medical Center
Durham, North Carolina

TODD R. GOLUB, M.D.
Chief Scientific Officer
Director, Cancer Program
The Broad Institute of Harvard and MIT
Charles A. Dana Investigator in Human Cancer Genetics at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
Professor of Pediatrics at Harvard Medical School
Howard Hughes Medical Institute Investigator
Cambridge, Massachusetts

DAMON RUNYON-RACHLEFF INNOVATION AWARD WINNERS

CALIFORNIA
MICHAEL Z. LIN, M.D., P.D.
“Building the magic bullet: protein switches for sensing oncogenic signals and executing therapeutic programs” at Stanford University School of Medicine, Stanford

MATTHEW R. PRATT, P.D.
“O-GlcNAc as a ‘sweet’ link between metabolism and survival in cancer” at the University of Southern California, Los Angeles

COLORADO
JAY R. HESSELBERTH, P.D.
“Peptide identification by massively-parallel sequencing” at the University of Colorado Denver, Aurora

ILLINOIS
SARAH M. VIGNALL, P.D.
Lau/Palihapitiya Innovator
“Phosphocentron-chaeting mechanisms to identify targets for new cancer therapies” at Northwestern University, Evanston

MASSACHUSETTS
EMILY P. BALKUS, M.D., P.D.
“Understanding and preventing carcinogenesis caused by the human microbiota” at Harvard University, Cambridge

ERANTHIE WEERAPANA, P.D.
“Targeting reactive cysteine residues for cancer therapy” at Boston College, Chestnut Hill

FENG ZHANG, P.D.
“Development and application of genome and epigenome engineering tools for cancer research” at The Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard, Cambridge

NEW YORK
ARVIN C. DAR, P.D., P.D.
“Targeting allosteric control in the Ras-MAPK pathway for cancer therapy” at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, New York

MORITZ F. KIRCHER, M.D., P.D.
“Raman-MRI nanobeacons: towards a universal cancer theranostic agent” at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York

CHRISTINE MAYR, M.D., P.D.
Inland Outreach Foundation Innovator
“A functional atlas of lymphoma genomic stability of mitochondrial hemizygosity with human pluripotent stem cells” at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, New York

EIRINI P. PAPAPETROU, M.D., P.D.
“Dissecting chromosome homoeozygosity with human pluripotent stem cells” at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, New York

BRADLEY L. PENTELUTE, P.D.
“Striking cancer with intracellular antibodies” at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge

ERAN THEWEISS-KORNS, P.D.
“Targeting reactive cysteine residues for cancer therapy” at Boston College, Chestnut Hill

OREGON
SUMMER L. GIBBS, P.D., M.D.
“Studying spatial regulation of HER2 tumorigenesis with multiplexed super resolution microscopy (MSRSM)” at the Oregon Health and Science University, Portland

DISCUSSION
NICHOLAS E. NAVIN, P.D.
Nadia’s Gift Foundation Innovator
“Developing single-cell sequencing methods to investigate metastatic seeding in breast cancer” at MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston

AGNEL SFEIR, P.D.
“Mechanisms of drug resistance in small cell lung cancer” at the Huntsman Cancer Institute, University of Utah, Salt Lake City

*Initial Year

UNITED STATES

TX

TRUDY G. OLIVER, P.D.
“Mechanisms of drug resistance in small cell lung cancer” at the Huntsman Cancer Institute, University of Utah, Salt Lake City

UT

*Initial Year
WASHINGTON
CAMERON J. TURTLE, MD, PhD * “The impact of the colon cancer microbiota on reconstitution of CD8T cells and clinical outcomes after allogeneic hematopoietic stem cell transplantation” with Stanley R. Riddell, MD, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, Seattle

* Initial Year
DAMON RUNYON CLINICAL INVESTIGATOR AWARD CONTINUATION GRANTS

CALIFORNIA
JEAN Y. TANG, MD, PhD “Mechanisms of acquired resistance to Hedgehog pathway inhibitors in basal cell carcinomas” with Philip A. Beachy, PhD, and Ervin H. Epstein, MD, Stanford University School of Medicine, Stanford

TOBIAS J. CARLING, MD, PhD “Molecular genetics of endocrine tumor disease” with Richard P. Linton, MD, PhD, and Robert Udelsman, MD, Yale University School of Medicine, New Haven

MICHIGAN
N. LYNN HENRY, MD, PhD Lilly Cancer Investigator “Pain processing pathway analysis in aromatase inhibitor-associated musculoskeletal syndrome” with Daniel F. Hayes, MD, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

NEW YORK
ZSOFIA K. STADLER, MD “Genomic assessment of the novo germline cancer susceptibility in pediatric malignancies” with Kenneth Ooft, MD, MPH, and Michael H. Wigler, PhD, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York

WASHINGTON
MARIE BLEAKLEY, MD, PhD Richard Lumbard Foundation Investigator “Segregating the GVL effect from GVHD in humans” with Stanley R. Riddell, MD, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, Seattle

BRIAN G. TILL, MD Pirie Clinical Investigator “Optimization of adoptive immunotherapy for lymphoma using genetically modified CD20-specific T cells” with Oliver W. Prass, MD, PhD, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, Seattle

DAMON RUNYON FELLOWSHIP AWARD COMMITTEE

CHAIR
TERRY MAGNUSON, PhD Sarah Graham Kenan Professor and Chair Department of Genetics Program Director, Cancer Genetics Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center University of North Carolina School of Medicine Chapel Hill, North Carolina

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SUSAN L. ACKERMAN, PhD Howard Hughes Medical Institute Investigator Professor, The Jackson Laboratory Bar Harbor, Maine

SHARON Y.R. DENT, PhD Professor and J. Ralph Meadows Chair, Department of Molecular Carcinogenesis Director, Science Park Director, Center for Cancer Epigenetics The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center Smithville, Texas

ADOLFO A. FERRANDO, MD, PhD Associate Professor of Pediatrics and Pathology Director, WOLF Foundation Leukemia/Lymphoma Laboratory Institute for Cancer Genetics Columbia University Medical Center New York, New York

LUCY A. GODLEY, MD, PhD Associate Professor Department of Medicine Section of Hematology and Oncology The University of Chicago Medicine Chicago, Illinois

KEVIN M. HAGIS, PhD Associate Professor Department of Medicine Harvard Medical School Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center Boston, Massachusetts

THOMAS S. HAYS, PhD Professor, Department of Genetics, Cell Biology and Development University of Minnesota Minneapolis, Minnesota

MARTA JASIN, PhD William E. Snee Chair Member, Developmental Biology Program Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center New York, New York

CHRISTINA LESLIE, PhD Associate Member and Laboratory Head Computational Biology Program Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center New York, New York

JUN O. LIU, PhD Director, Johns Hopkins Drug Library Professor of Pharmacology and Molecular Sciences Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine Baltimore, Maryland

DAMON RUNYON FELLOWSHIP AWARD COMMITTEE (continued)

CALIFORNIA
ERIK A. LUNDBQUIST, PhD Professor, Department of Molecular Biosciences University of Kansas Lawrence, Kansas

MICHAEL T. McMANNUS, PhD Professor, Department of Microbiology and Immunology Diabetes Center University of California, San Francisco San Francisco, California

TOBIAS MEYER, MD Chair, Department of Chemical and Systems Biology Mrs. George A. Winzer Professor in Cell Biology Stanford University School of Medicine Stanford, California

DENISE J. MONTELL, PhD Duggan Professor of Molecular, Cellular and Developmental Biology University of California, Santa Barbara Santa Barbara, California

PHILIP A. NEWMARK, PhD Howard Hughes Medical Institute Investigator Professor of Cell and Developmental Biology University of Illinois Urbana, Illinois

CLODAGH O’SHEA, PhD Associate Professor, Molecular and Cell Biology Laboratory William Scandling Developmental Chair, Salk Institute for Biological Studies La Jolla, California

ERIK A. BARTH, MPH, MSc Howard Hughes Medical Institute Investigator Howard Hughes Medical Institute La Jolla, California

ERIK A. LUNDQUIST, PhD Howard Hughes Medical Institute Investigator Howard Hughes Medical Institute La Jolla, California

MARIE BLEAKLEY, MD, PhD Richard Lumbard Foundation Investigator Howard Hughes Medical Institute Investigator Howard Hughes Medical Institute La Jolla, California

BRIAN G. TILL, MD Pirie Clinical Investigator Howard Hughes Medical Institute Investigator Howard Hughes Medical Institute La Jolla, California

DAMON RUNYON FELLOWSHIP AWARD AWARDS

CALIFORNIA
BRITTANY ADAMSON, PhD * HHMI Professor “Comprehensive characterization of the integrated networks that regulate protein homeostasis within the mammalian endoplasmic reticulum” with Jonathan S. Weissman, PhD, University of California, San Francisco

CHRISTOPHER J. BOHLEN, PhD “Glial activation in neuropathic injury and pain” with Ben A. Barnes, MD, PhD, Stanford University School of Medicine, Stanford

GIRL BAHBAH, PhD Mark Fellow “High-resolution studies of dynamain structure and mechanism” with Ronald D. Vale, PhD, University of California, San Francisco

STEVEN D. CAPPELL, PhD “Molecular dynamics of the G1/S transition” with Tobias Meyer, PhD, Stanford University School of Medicine, Stanford

TRACY T. CHOW, PhD “Investigating and engineering non-canonical telemere maintenance mechanisms in human cells” with Elizabeth H. Blackburn, PhD, University of California, San Francisco

JUSTIN M. CREST, PhD “Calls, ECM, and the mechanical forces that regulate organ shape” with T. Scott MacBeath, PhD, University of California, Berkeley
ELIE J. DINER, PhD
"Transcription of an expanded genetic alphabet in a synthetic bacterium" with Floyd R. Romesberg, PhD, Scripps Research Institute, La Jolla

ALBA DIZ MUÑOZ, PhD
"How neutrophils convert membrane tension into changes in intracellular signaling during "amoebatoxia" with Orion D. Weiner, PhD, and Daniel A. Fletcher, PhD, University of California, San Francisco

DAMIAN C. EKERT, PhD
"Exploring the role of a novel, polymorphic protein family in M. tuberculosis pathogenesis" with Jeffrey S. Cox, PhD, University of California, San Francisco

MARY W. ELTING, PhD
"Probing how kinetochore-fibre anchorage to chromatin is regulated to rebalance and accurately segregate chromosomes" with Sophie Dumont, PhD, University of California, San Francisco

MINGYE FENG, PhD
"Macrophage-mediated immunosurveillance in metastasis" with Irving L. Weissman, MD, Stanford University School of Medicine, Stanford

ARI J. FIRESTONE, PhD
"Investigation of Acyl Protein Thioesterase 1 and 2 as potential therapeutic targets in NRAS-driven leukemias" with Irving L. Weissman, MD, Stanford University School of Medicine, Stanford

CASEY A. GIFFORD, PhD * HHMI Fellow
"Dissecting the role of pioneer transcription factors in cancer progression" with Deepak Srivastava, MD, Gladstone Institutes, San Francisco

ITAMAR HAREL, PhD
"Defined factors for the rejuvenation of aged cells" with Anne Brunet, PhD, Stanford University School of Medicine, Stanford

KEREN I. HILGENDORF, PhD * Laryon Family Fellow
"Role of ciliary IGF-1/AKT signaling in ciliogenesis, adipogenesis, and tissue regeneration" with Peter K. Jackson, PhD, Stanford University School of Medicine, Stanford

ANKUR JAIN, PhD * Peter and Susan Bent Family Fellow
"Formation and function of mRNA processing bodies" with Ronald D. Vale, PhD, University of California, San Francisco

FUGUO JIANG, PhD * Marcie Fellow
"Molecular mechanisms of guide RNA: target dRNA binding and PAM recognition by CRISPR-Cas9" with Jennifer A. Doench, PhD, Stanford University, Berkeley

JOHN J. KARULIOCH, PhD
"Characterizing mechanisms by which Kaposi sarcoma-associated herpesvirus modulates cellular gene expression" with Britt A. Glumac unser, PhD, University of California, Berkeley

JESSICA P. LAMO, PhD
"Identifying substrates of the mammalian Cullin3-RING E3 ligases" with David P. Tyczycki, PhD, University of California, San Francisco

STEVEN LIN, PhD HHMI Fellow
"Molecular mechanism of Cas9, an RNA-guided DNA endonuclease" with Jennifer A. Doench, PhD, University of California, Berkeley

VIN LIU, PhD * Laryon Family Fellow
"Sensing lung tumors by pulmonary sensory neurons" with Mark A. Krasnow, MD, PhD, Stanford University School of Medicine, Stanford

WENYU LUO, PhD * Larkyn Family Fellow
"A Drosophila model to study resilience to social stress and depression-like behavior" with Yuh-Nung Jan, PhD, University of California, San Francisco

GABRIELA C. MONSALVE, PhD * Robert Black Fellow
"Identification and characterization of plasma membrane transporters for glucocorticoids" with Keith R. Yamamoto, PhD, University of California, San Francisco

MANDY M. MULLER, PhD * HHMI Fellow
"Widespread RNA destruction and selective preservation during viral infection" with Britt Glumac unser, PhD, University of California, Berkeley

ANDREW N. NAGER, PhD Fayne Sardoun Fellow
"Dissecting the mechanism of selective diffusion into the primary cilium" with Maxence V. Nachury, PhD, Stanford University School of Medicine, Stanford

DUY P. NGUYEN, PhD * Constant and Betty Erwin Fellow
"Genome editing via an engineered RNA-guided nuclease to create cancer genetic models" with James A. Wells, PhD, University of California, San Francisco

EUGENIA N. NIKOLOVA, PhD Robert Black Fellow
"Recognition of methylated and specific DNA sequences by the zinc finger transcriptional repressor Kaiso and modulation by other nuclear factors" with Peter E. Wright, PhD, Scripps Research Institute, La Jolla

DOUGLAS H. PHANSTIEL, PhD * HHMI Fellow
"Exploring the regulatory role of long-range chromatin interactions" with Christopher R. Kintner, PhD, and Thomas M. Jessell, PhD, Salk Institute, La Jolla

ERIN F. SIMONDS, PhD *
"Single-cell analysis and targeting of signaling networks in glioblastoma tumor-initiating cells" with William A. Weiss, MD, PhD, University of California, San Francisco

ROTHII K. SRIVAS, PhD *
"Longitudinal probing of host-microbiome interactions in obese patients during drastic weight loss" with Michael P. Snyder, PhD, Stanford University School of Medicine, Stanford

LORA B. SWEENEY, PhD HHMI Fellow
"Spinal circuit remodeling during developmental transitions in motor circuit organization" with Britt A. Glumac unser, PhD, University of California, Berkeley

VICTORIA E. WANG, MD, PhD *
"The role of the c-Met/Hepatocyte growth factor (HGF) pathway in drug resistance and tumor metastasis" with Frank McCormick, PhD, University of California, San Francisco

YANLING WANG, PhD Robert Black Fellow
"Diversity generating retroelement-mediated surface protein display in Bartonella fragilis and its role in host-microbe interactions" with Jeffery F. Miller, PhD, University of California, Los Angeles

ABUN P. WIITA, MD, PhD *
"Novel biomarker discovery for monitoring chemotherapeutic efficacy" with James A. Wells, PhD, University of California, San Francisco

MELANIE ISSIGONIS, PhD HHMI Fellow
"Germ cell specification from somatic stem cells in planarians" with Phillip A. Nemerow, PhD, University of Illinois, Urbana

CHIH-YUNG LEE, PhD HHMI Fellow
"Regulation of primordial germ cell fate in C. elegans" with Geraldine Seydoux, PhD, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore

HANJING PENG, PhD *
"Targeting the proteasome using a hybrid, combinatorial ribosilicin library" with Jun O. Liu, PhD, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore

VICTORIA E. WANG, MD, PhD *
"The role of the c-Met/Hepatocyte growth factor (HGF) pathway in drug resistance and tumor metastasis" with Frank McCormick, PhD, University of California, San Francisco

ALEX POLLEN, PhD
"Regulation of proliferation, migration and angiogenesis by the Wingless gene uniquely expressed in human neural stem cells" with Arnold R. Krupnick, MD, PhD, University of California, San Francisco

R.J. RACKI, PhD HHMI Fellow
"Polyphosphates and stationary phase in rod homocytes" with Johann M. Kriegstein, MD, PhD, University of California, San Francisco

PETER E. WRIGHT, PhD
"Recognition of methylated and specific DNA sequences by the zinc finger transcriptional repressor Kaiso and modulation by other nuclear factors" with Peter E. Wright, PhD, Scripps Research Institute, La Jolla

JERONIMO L. VICTORINO, PhD
"Regulating human microbe interactions in obese patients during drastic weight loss" with Michael P. Snyder, PhD, Stanford University School of Medicine, Stanford

KESWELL E. WENZER, PhD
"Longitudinal probing of host-microbiome interactions in obese patients during drastic weight loss" with Michael P. Snyder, PhD, Stanford University School of Medicine, Stanford

SUDHA V. YERRAMSETTY, PhD HHMI Fellow
"Spinal circuit remodeling during developmental transitions in motor circuit organization" with Britt A. Glumac unser, PhD, University of California, Berkeley

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"The role of the c-Met/Hepatocyte growth factor (HGF) pathway in drug resistance and tumor metastasis" with Frank McCormick, PhD, University of California, San Francisco

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"Regulation of primordial germ cell fate in C. elegans" with Geraldine Seydoux, PhD, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore

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"Targeting the proteasome using a hybrid, combinatorial ribosilicin library" with Jun O. Liu, PhD, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore

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"Identification and analysis of LncRNAs regulating diffuse large B cell lymphoma" with Louie M. Staudt, MD, PhD, National Cancer Institute, Bethesda

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MELANIE ISSIGONIS, PhD HHMI Fellow
"Germ cell specification from somatic stem cells in planarians" with Phillip A. Nemerow, PhD, University of Illinois, Urbana

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"Development of selective bortezomib inhibitors from dual bortezomib kinase inhibitors for the treatment of neuroblastoma" with James E. Bradner, MD, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Boston

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"Detection of Dicer as a novel therapeutic route towards the inhibition of tumorigenesis and neoplastic growth" with Phillip A. Sharp, PhD, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge

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"Investigating the mechanism of anti-translocation by ERAD" with Thomas A. Rapaport, PhD, Harvard Medical School, Boston

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"Using super-resolution imaging to probe transcriptional mechanisms of Polycymol silencing" with Xiaowei Zhuang, PhD, Harvard University, Cambridge
MICHAEL A. CIANFROCCO, PhD
HHMI Fellow
“How does dynamin achieve processivity?” with Andres Leichtbuecher, PhD, and Samara L. Beck-Peterson, PhD, Harvard University, Cambridge

WENWEN FANG, PHD
HHMI Fellow
“Mechanism and regulation of primary-microRNA processing” with David P. Bartel, PhD, Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research, Cambridge

JUNJIE U. GUO, PHD
“Charting the in vivo landscape of RNA-RNA interactions” with David P. Bartel, PhD, Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research, Cambridge

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“Evolutionary and functional consequences of genetic conflicts between KRAB-Zinc-Fingers and endogenous retroviruses in primate genomes” with Harmi S. Malik, PhD, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, Seattle

ROBERT K. MCGINTY, MD, PHD
HHMI Fellow “Structural studies of the MLL1 core methyltransferase complex” with Harmit S. Malik, PhD, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, Seattle

ALEXEY A. SOSHNAYE, MD, PHD *
HHMI Fellow “Regulation of kinetochore microtubule stability” with Alexander F. Schier, PhD, University of Washington, Seattle

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Ralph E. Klein, PhD, Jack Sorrell Fellow “Mechanisms underlying copy number gain in cancer and genomic disorder-associated complex rearrangements” with James R. Lupski, MD, PhD, Baylor College of Medicine, Houston

RUI YUE, PHD
“Functional analysis of leptin signaling in hematopoietic stem cells and perivascular niche” with Sean J. Morrison, PhD, University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, Dallas

SHREERAM AKILESH, MD, PHD * “Regulatory genomics of kidney cancer” with John A. Ramaytoseopoulos, MD, University of Washington, Seattle

MATTHEW P. MILLER, PHD *
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ANTONIO MOLARO, PHD *
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“Exploiting chaperone dependence as a novel therapeutic strategy in alveolar rhabdomyosarcoma” with Trever G. Bivona, MD, PhD, University of California, San Francisco

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“Molecular and cellular characterization of a novel lncRNA in neuroblastoma” with Richard Gregory, PhD, Boston Children’s Hospital

LEO D. WANG, MD, PhD
“Phosphoproteomic identification of therapeutic targets in AML stem cells” with Amy J. Wagers, PhD, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Boston

MARK W. ZIMMERMAN, PhD *
“Elucidating the mechanism of CHD9-mediated tumor suppression in neuroblastoma” with A. Thomas Look, MD, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Boston

NEW YORK
SCOTT HAIHUA CHU, PhD
“The role of DOT1L in pediatric leukemias” with Scott A. Armstrong, MD, PhD, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York

LY P. VU, PhD *
“Uncovering the role of RNA-binding protein Syncrip in acute myeloid leukemia (AML)” with Michael Kharas, PhD, and Ross L. Levine, MD, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York

OREGON
LARA E. DAVIS, MD
“Osteosarcoma as a proof-of-concept model for personalized cancer therapy” with Charles Keller, MD, Oregon Health and Science University, Portland

PENNSYLVANIA
ANGELA J. WAANDERS, MD, MPH
“Preclinical models for therapeutic targeting of BRAF altered pediatric astrocytomas” with John M. Maris, MD, Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia

TEXAS
KENNETH CHEN, MD
“Dysregulation of the P-myc/Lin28/let-7 axis in childhood Wilms tumors” with James F. Amatruda, MD, PhD, University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, Dallas

"Initial Year"

DALE F. FREY AWARDS FOR BREAKTHROUGH SCIENTISTS

DAVID K. BRESLOW, PhD *
“Dissecting the role of the ciliary transport machinery in oncogenic signal transduction” at Stanford University School of Medicine, Stanford

ADAM DE LA ZERDA, PhD
“Molecular imaging of cell signaling in the tumor microenvironment” at Stanford University, Stanford

GABRIEL C. LANDER, PhD
“Deciphering the structural basis of macromolecular functions involved in cellular homeostasis” at the Scripps Research Institute, La Jolla

COSTAS A. LYSSIOUTIS, PhD *
“Exploring the metabolic effects of oncogenic KRas in pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma” at the Weill Medical College of Cornell University, New York

RAYMOND E. MOELLERING, PhD *
“Characterization of novel pathogenic pathways in cancer: do tumor cells use quorum-sensing molecules to support malignancy?” at the Scripps Research Institute, La Jolla

NATHAN D. THOMSEN, PhD *
“Molecular and cellular mechanism of caspase activation by small molecule pro-enzyme activators” at the University of California, San Francisco

COLE TRAPNELL, PhD *
“Global characterization of lncRNA oncogenes with next-generation transcriptomics” at University of Washington School of Medicine, Seattle
Your support this year enabled us to fund nearly $16 million of research by today’s most brilliant young cancer researchers exploring bold new ideas. Since its founding in 1946, in partnership with donors across the nation, the Foundation has invested over $287 million in funding more than 3,460 young scientists.

In August 2013, the Damon Runyon 5K at Yankee Stadium drew over 3,000 participants and raised $764,685. The 2013 Runyon 5K was presented by MetLife Foundation, with additional support from Brick-Run Sports Physical Therapy, NYSID, Poland Spring, Cabot Creamery, Dannon, Frito-Lay, New Era, SOYJOY, White Rose, 24 Hour Fitness, NBC 4 New York, the New York Daily News, SiriusXM Satellite Radio, and the New York Yankees.

The first-ever Runyon Up at 4 World Trade Center took place in April 2014. Nearly 700 participants climbed up to 72 stories (1,632 steps), raising $207,625 for cancer research. Our thanks to Silverstein Properties for partnering with us to host this event. Other event sponsors included CBRE, AIG, Bank of America Merrill Lynch, Pepsi, Cabot Creamery, Dave’s Hoagies, GoGo squeeZ, GuS – Grown-up Soda, Michelob Ultra, Morton’s The Steakhouse, Raw Revolution, SiriusXM Satellite Radio, SkinnyPop Popcorn, Utz, Vita Coco, Vita Organic Foods, and Whole Foods.

Our 2014 Annual Breakfast raised $1.6 million to support the nation’s most revolutionary young cancer researchers. Steven A. Kandarian, CEO of MetLife and Damon Runyon Board of Directors member, was honored.

Damon Runyon Broadway Tickets supports life-changing research by offering premium seats to new hits like It’s Only a Play and long-running shows like The Book of Mormon. We are especially grateful to the Shubert Organization, Nederlander Productions, Jujamcyn Theaters, and Disney Theatrical Productions for making this program possible. Learn more at www.damonrunyon.org/broadway.

Accelerating Cancer Cures fosters communication and collaboration between academia and industry. Thank you to Eli Lilly and Company, Celgene, Genetech, Merck, Millennium: The Takeda Oncology Company, and Pfizer for their leading sponsorship.
We are fortunate to have individual, foundation, and corporate sponsors who have partnered with us to launch or provide continuing support for specific award programs. We thank them for their vision and leadership.

**DAMON RUNYON-RACHEFF INNOVATION AWARDS**

This award was established thanks to the vision and generosity of Debbie and Andy Rachleff.

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NICHOLAS E. NAVIN, PhD
MD Anderson Cancer Center

**CLINICAL INVESTIGATOR AWARDS**

This award was initially established in partnership with Eli Lilly and Company. In addition to the named awards, it is supported by Accelerating Cancer Cures, a collaboration between Damon Runyon and leading biopharmaceutical companies (see page 31).

Edward P. Evans Foundation Clinical Investigator
OMAR ABDEL-WAHAB, MD
Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center

Gordon Family Clinical Investigator
HIMISHA BELTRAN, MD
Weill Medical College of Cornell University

The Jake Waterfall Foundation for Innovative Pediatric Cancer Research Clinical Investigator
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Ann E. Patterson Trust Clinical Investigator
SARAT CHANDARLAPAYY, MD, PhD
Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center

**CLINICAL INVESTIGATOR AWARD CONTINUATION GRANTS**

Follow-up funding for select Clinical Investigators has been provided thanks to the generosity of the William K. Bowes, Jr. Foundation and Conne and Bob Lurie.

Lilly Clinical Investigator
N. LYNN HENRY, MD, PhD
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FINANCIAL SUMMARY 
FISCAL YEAR 2014

As in previous years, the financial activities of the Damon Runyon Cancer Research Foundation were audited by McGladrey and Pullen, LLP. Below is a snapshot of FY 2014. For our complete audited financial statements, please visit our website at www.damonrunyon.org.

TOTAL REVENUE
$30.2 MILLION

Thanks to a strong market and outstanding investment advisors, who serve pro bono, our investments grew by $20 million in FY 2014.

OPERATING EXPENSES
$21 MILLION

We are highly efficient, with our award programs representing 88% of our total expenses, up from 85% just last year.

Overhead is paid from our endowment and Damon Runyon Broadway Tickets, allowing 100% of your donation to support cancer research.

We are fully accredited by the Better Business Bureau Wise Giving Alliance.