

DAMON RUNYON CANCER RESEARCH FOUNDATION



Leadership is at the core of our mission. We do not simply fund cancer research. We identify and enable new generations of future scientific leaders capable of discovering radical new approaches to how we prevent, diagnose and cure the many forms of cancer.

We do this because it will take exceptional people to ultimately defeat a disease as pernicious and wily as cancer. We select these young scientists with great care and provide them with funding, mentorship, and support. They then go on to lead the most innovative and paradigm-shifting research—research that has saved and will continue to save lives.

At the end of this year, our current President and Chief Executive Officer, **Lorraine W. Egan**, is stepping down after 18 years at the helm of the Damon Runyon Cancer Research Foundation.

She will be succeeded by **Yung S. Lie, PhD**, our Deputy Director and Chief Scientific Officer. At this momentous time for Damon

Runyon, it is fitting that the theme of this year's annual report is leadership.

In the pages that follow, we share our thoughts on leadership and how we are paving the way for new breakthroughs against cancer by finding and fostering the scientific leaders who will make the end of all suffering from cancer a reality.



INTRODUCING

Our Next Leader

When our Fellowship Award Committee selected Yung S. Lie, PhD, as a Damon Runyon Fellow in 2000, little did they know that they were picking Damon Runyon's future President and CEO. She will be the first scientist and alumna to lead the organization since it was founded in 1946.

Dr. Lie received her BA degree from UC Berkeley and her PhD from Stanford University. As a Damon Runyon Fellow from 2001-2004, Dr. Lie studied how cells migrate and navigate their environment at the University of California, San Francisco and The Rockefeller University. She joined Damon Runyon in 2008 and currently serves as its Deputy Director and Chief Scientific Officer. Under her leadership, Damon Runyon scientists have pioneered the fields of immunotherapy, genomic and precision medicine; its award programs have expanded to target the greatest areas of need in cancer research; and Damon Runyon's research funding has grown by 225%, to more than \$18 million annually.

Dr. Lie's postdoctoral mentor, Mary Beth Hatten, PhD, Professor at The Rockefeller University and member of the National Academy of Sciences, calls her "a superb scientist and astute judge of scientific talent. Congratulations to Damon Runyon on an outstanding choice to lead their organization."



In the scientific community,
Damon Runyon is held in the highest
esteem for its commitment to
young scientists and rigor in
selecting the best of the best. I am
thrilled and honored to continue
this important work and am
confident that it will lead to new
breakthroughs against cancer.

YUNG S. LIE, PhD



LORRAINE W. EGAN: EIGHTEEN YEARS OF EXTRAORDINARY LEADERSHIP

The Damon Runyon Cancer Research Foundation is grateful to Lorraine W. Egan for her leadership for the past eighteen years. Thousands of scientists have been funded during her tenure, and they have contributed significantly to accelerating progress against cancer during this century. She has built a deeply committed community of supporters who have enabled Damon Runyon to expand its research funding and develop new programs to ensure that the best young minds have the resources they need to pursue bold ideas. "Lorraine has set the gold standard for leadership." says Damon Runyon Board Chair Alan M. Leventhal. "Her commitment to our scientists, keen ability to inspire others, and above all, relentless drive to end cancer will have a lasting impact."



EXECUTIVE Q&A

Reflections on Leadership

The following are edited excerpts from an interview with Lorraine W. Egan, current President of the Damon Runyon Cancer Research Foundation, and her successor, Yung S. Lie, PhD. For video of the full interview, visit www.damonrunyon.org.

Lorraine, what makes Damon Runyon a leader in cancer research?

Lorraine: The most important thing that comes to mind when I think about Damon Runyon is its commitment to excellence. We stand for excellence in the science that we fund, but also in terms of how we run our organization and steward our donors' gifts. Our donors are incredibly generous to support us and we take that very seriously. Our Board of Directors looks for excellence in the people to lead the organization. I'm honored that they selected me years ago and now it's incredible for me to pass the baton to somebody who is, first of all, a Damon Runyon alumna and, secondly, clearly the right person to lead Damon Runyon going forward. It's the ultimate success that we can have a seamless transition and maintain the quality and excellence of our organization.



As a scientist and former award recipient, Yung is the ideal person to lead our organization. She completely understands our mission. She understands the science. I can't think of a better person to take the helm of Damon Runyon.

LORRAINE W. EGAN

What makes Yung the best choice to lead Damon Runyon?

Lorraine: It's exciting for me to be able to hand off the leadership to such a perfect person.

Damon Runyon is all about the science. It is more important to us than anything, that we fund the best scientists doing paradigm-shifting work.

As a scientist and former award recipient, Yung is the ideal person to lead our organization.

She completely understands our mission. She understands the science. I can't think of a better person to take the helm of Damon Runyon.

As the outgoing CEO of Damon Runyon, what advice do you have for her?

Lorraine: I'm not sure Yung needs any advice because she's so incredibly talented, but what has made us a good team, and what she'll carry on, is staying focused on our mission. It's all about the science and the scientists. If we stay true to that, no matter where the science goes and what new discoveries are made, funding brilliant people is always going to be the secret to success.

Yung, what are you particularly excited about moving forward in this new role?

Yung: We are funding more research and more scientists than ever before, and there's the capacity to do more. I'm excited about the opportunity to work with our scientific leadership to identify the right places for Damon Runyon to fund more cancer research to make a greater impact.

Lorraine: The science is moving so fast and the discoveries are incredible. It's possible that during Yung's tenure as CEO tremendous breakthroughs will be made in cancer and more and more people's lives will be saved. I'll be a little jealous not to be at the helm for that.

As a female scientist yourself, can you talk about some of the challenges that female scientists have?

Yung: Science is a particularly challenging career path for everyone, but we know that for women it is especially difficult to balance a very demanding career with having a young family and trying to be successful in all aspects of their lives. At Damon Runyon, we try to support our women scientists in ways that help them get through these times that can be very difficult. We help by providing all of our scientists who have young children with a childcare allowance and also provide women with additional resources to bring their children to our retreats, for example. We can also be mentors and provide additional support and advice as they need it.

Are you ready to take the helm?

Yung: I feel very excited, honored and confident about stepping into this new role as the CEO at Damon Runyon. In part, it's because of the deep history and experience that I've had with Damon Runyon—having been a Fellow myself and then leading the scientific programs for so many years. Lorraine has been an incredible person to work with and to learn from, and so I do feel that I'm in the absolute best position to now move into this role.

OUR SCIENTISTS

The Science of Identifying Future Leaders

Twelve scientists funded by Damon Runyon have received the Nobel Prize. Seventy-four are members of the prestigious National Academy of Sciences. Countless others are behind recent progress in precision medicine and immunotherapy, and spearheading promising and diverse new fields of research.

What is behind this stellar track record in choosing future leaders? Award selection committees that are as creative, risk-taking and scientifically diverse as the candidates they evaluate.

The world-renowned scientists on Damon Runyon's award committees hail from the nation's most prestigious research organizations and academic institutions. They are laser-focused on selecting the most brilliant young scientists and providing the support needed to turn their high-risk ideas into breakthroughs against cancer.

For William G. Kaelin, Jr., MD, Damon Runyon Board Member and Vice Chair of Scientific Programs, a rigorous selection process is key to identifying these rising stars. "Clearly our peer review process has to be spectacular. You need exceptional people evaluating these individuals and their proposals because we are seeking the best and brightest people."

For our junior faculty awards, finalists must pitch their proposals in person, a dynamic process that allows committee members to interact with applicants in real time. Are they fearless, willing to push outside of their comfort zone, or are they going to take the obvious path? "We like people who ask big, important, interesting questions, and they have to be courageous in the way they pursue them."

The award selection committees also think broadly about the best science to fund. As Dr. Kaelin observes, "You can't always predict what the outcomes of the work are going to be. The person who's working on breast cancer might break the back of some other cancer problem unrelated to breast cancer."

Rachel Green, PhD, Chair of the Fellowship
Award Committee and also a former Damon
Runyon Fellow, says, "Our role is to do our very
best to help come up with a balanced set of
views on the committee. That really does enable
us to pick the best set of people." Dr. Green, a
biochemist, acknowledges, "The committee
members' diverse backgrounds allow them to
identify the exciting ideas and approaches across
many disciplines as they emerge to understand
and target cancer." And new doesn't always mean
better. "Something isn't good just because it uses

new methods and doesn't ask hard questions," says Dr. Green.

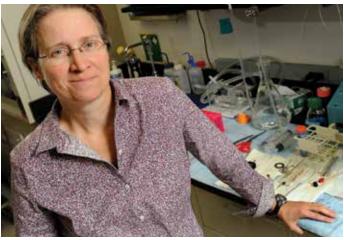
This explains why Damon Runyon alumni dominate the biomedical ecosystem—running top-tier research laboratories, publishing landmark studies and founding biotech companies to move their discoveries to patients.

Dr. Kaelin emphasizes that Damon Runyon plays a critical role in keeping the most promising scientists engaged in cancer research. "I can't help but wonder how many of these people, along with their potential contributions toward improving cancer care, would be lost without the support of Damon Runyon and its generous donors."



William G. Kaelin, Jr., MD

- Damon Runyon Board Member and Vice Chair, Scientific Programs, 2016-Present
- Chair, Physician-Scientist Training Award Committee, 2015-Present
- Member, Clinical Investigator Award Committee, 2006-2016, Chair, 2013-2016
- Dana-Farber Cancer Institute/
 Harvard Cancer Center



Rachel Green, PhD

- Chair, Fellowship Award Committee, 2018-present, Member 2015-2018
- Member, Innovation Award Committee, 2008–2014
- Damon Runyon Fellow, 1993-1996
- Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine



Grooming Future Leaders

Mentorship is a critical part of enabling young scientists to reach their highest potential.

Every day, researchers pour their energy and passion into work they hope will contribute to lifesaving discoveries, but along the way they will face experimental failures and disappointment. Strong mentors not only support them through these rough times, but also foster the skills needed to have long and successful careers in research.



Elaine has this exquisite ability, like an oracle, to see where the field is going and navigate in that direction. That isn't always intuitive.

Working with her, you hone that skill.

JULIE SEGRE, PhD

Damon Runyon Board Member and former Damon Runyon Fellow Elaine V. Fuchs, PhD, is exactly the kind of mentor we seek. First and foremost, her own career makes her the perfect role model. She is one of the most renowned cell biologists today, highly recognized for her breakthrough discoveries regarding the biology of the skin and the role of stem cells in communicating with immune, dermal, and other cells in their environment. She is a Professor at The Rockefeller University, a Howard Hughes Medical Institute Investigator, and has received numerous prestigious awards for her groundbreaking science.

Beyond her personal success, she has trained many of the current leaders in science, including seven Damon Runyon scientists. "Developing young researchers to be tomorrow's leaders is critical to the future of discovery," says Dr. Fuchs.

Julie Segre, PhD, currently at the National Human Genome Institute, completed her Damon Runyon Fellowship with Dr. Fuchs. "Elaine fostered a vibrant scientific environment, where you were challenged to be fearless. She pushed her mentees out of their comfort zones

Elaine V. Fuchs, PhD

- Damon Runyon Board Member
- Damon Runyon Fellow, 1977-1979
- Laboratory Head, Laboratory of Mammalian Cell Biology and Development
- Rebecca C. Lancefield Professor,
 The Rockefeller University

OPPOSITE PAGE, (L to R): Shruti Naik, PhD; Elaine V. Fuchs, PhD; Julie Segre, PhD to find unconventional solutions to the problems they were investigating," says Dr. Segre.

The scientists coming out of the Fuchs lab are not only trained in laboratory science, but also the business and infrastructure of running a lab. They learn how to advocate for themselves, have direction and purpose, network, and communicate their research. "Elaine has this exquisite ability, like an oracle, to see where the field is going and navigate in that direction. That isn't always intuitive. Working with her, you hone that skill," explains Dr. Segre.

Dr. Segre now mentors many others—including Damon Runyon-Dale F. Frey Breakthrough Scientist and former Fellow Shruti Naik, PhD. They met at the National Institutes of Health during Dr. Naik's graduate studies. Dr. Naik went on to work under Dr. Fuchs for her Damon Runyon Fellowship before launching her own lab at New York University School of Medicine this year. "My mentors have been my anchors in science. Julie, along with my graduate advisor and Elaine, have been fantastic in leading by example. They are really daring scientists, who ask big questions," says Dr. Naik.

"Ultimately, the level at which science can advance depends on investing time and effort in emerging leaders," says Dr. Fuchs.

As a mentor, that requires answering questions, probing those failed experiments, and being open-minded to new ideas. It also means taking the time to understand the individual in the lab coat. "By doing this, you empower them to go out into the world and do great things," adds Dr. Naik.

Successful Leadership— Our Ultimate Goal

Damon Runyon has countless examples of scientists we identified and supported as young scientists who have gone on to become leaders in research.

Jedd D. Wolchok, MD, PhD

- Damon Runyon Clinical Investigator, 2003-2008
- Chief, Melanoma & Immunotherapeutics Service at MSK
- Director, Parker Institute for Cancer Immunotherapy at MSK





I remember the day that Dr. Wolchok walked in with the scans saying, 'The tumors are gone!' I cried, and he said, 'Why are you crying?

You should be happy.' And he was right.

KAREN TAPHORN

Jedd D. Wolchok, MD, PhD, a former Damon Runyon Clinical Investigator at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, is a case in point. He is a scientist we take great pride in having funded long before he became an international leader in immunotherapy*, which has transformed melanoma from deadly to a treatable disease for people like Karen Taphorn.

Karen's melanoma first appeared in 2011 as a bleeding mole on her back. "They surgically removed it, and we hoped that was the end of the journey." Within a year, melanoma had returned in the scar tissue. Six months after that, a scan revealed the cancer had spread to 24 tumors in her lungs. She was devastated. "When someone gives you a diagnosis of stage four melanoma, a thousand things go through your mind. You just want to live." Then she found Dr. Wolchok.

Damon Runyon funded Dr. Wolchok at a time when many doubted that immunotherapy, or harnessing patients' immune systems to attack cancers, would ever work. We believed in Dr. Wolchok and his conviction that immunotherapy would ultimately be successful and enabled him to pursue this lifesaving work. "For the first 20 years of my career, we could expect a person to survive six or seven months, even after treatment with chemotherapy. (Patient survival) has now changed to more than three years, and sometimes indefinitely," says Dr. Wolchok.

Dr. Wolchok led the clinical trials of the first immunotherapy approved by the FDA. He enrolled Karen in a more recent clinical trial he was leading that combined two immunotherapy drugs called checkpoint



KAREN TAPHORN

inhibitors. The drugs release the natural brakes on immune cells, allowing them to recognize and attack tumors. The results were astounding. "Karen went through the entire trial. She had no significant side effects and has had a durable complete remission, which lasts until today."

Karen maintained her quality of life during cancer treatment. "The side effects were so slight that nobody knew I was sick, period. I did not lose my hair. I did not lose weight. I did not sleep all the time. I carried on my life just as I did before they told me that I was sick.

"I remember the day that Dr. Wolchok walked in with the scans saying, 'The tumors are gone!' I cried, and he said, 'Why are you crying? You should be happy.' And he was right."

This is what funding future leaders is all about.

* This year's Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine recognized immunotherapy as a breakthrough that has led to an entirely new class of lifesaving drugs. Dr. Wolchok helped bring this treatment to patients by conducting the first clinical trial of the first checkpoint inhibitor approved for cancer. Watch "Anatomy of a Breakthrough," the story of Dr. Jedd Wolchok's cutting-edge work in immunotherapy, at young damon ways or a

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Award Programs

In FY2018, Damon Runyon awarded nearly \$18.3 million to 69 newly selected, exceptional scientists.

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

with possibility of extension up to an additional \$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: \$231,000

DAMON RUNYON-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 catapults their research careers and their impact on cancer.

TWO-YEAR AWARD: \$100,000

DAMON RUNYON CLINICAL INVESTIGATOR AWARD

Supports early career physician-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; with possibility of extension up to an additional \$300,000

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: \$231,000

DAMON RUNYON PHYSICIAN-SCIENTIST TRAINING AWARD

Supports and encourages outstanding recent medical school graduates to pursue cancer research careers by providing them with the opportunity for a protected research training experience under the mentorship of a highly qualified and gifted mentor.

FOUR-YEAR AWARD: \$460,000

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

DAMON RUNYON-RACHLEFF

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The funding has enabled me to pursue a highly innovative project, which would have been difficult to do without the help from the Foundation. It has allowed me to expand the research of my lab in a new direction.



GUILLEM PRATX, PhD

Damon Runyon-Rachleff Innovator, 2015–2018 Stanford University

DAMON RUNYON-RACHLEFF

Innovation Awards

CALIFORNIA

Rushika M. Perera, PhD

Mechanisms of cellular transformation at the signal organelle level at the University of California, San Francisco

MASSACHUSETTS

Eric S. Fischer, PhD*

Novel mechanisms for small molecule induced targeted degradation of RRM family proteins at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Boston

Marcela V. Maus, MD, PhD

Next-generation CAR T cells for EGFRvIII-positive glioblastoma at Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston

NEW YORK

Arnold S. Han, MD, PhD*

Precision T cell receptor-based cancer therapies at Columbia University, New York

Amaia Lujambio, PhD*

Overcoming the resistance to anti-PD1 immunotherapy in hepatocellular carcinoma at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, New York

Benjamin L. Martin, PhD, and David Q. Matus, PhD

Cell cycle regulation of cellular behaviors associated with cancer metastasis at Stony Brook University, Stony Brook

NORTH CAROLINA

Lawrence A. David, PhD, and Anthony D. Sung, MD*

Personalized prebiotics to optimize microbiota metabolism and improve transplant outcomes at Duke University, Durham

OHIO

Wayne O. Miles, PhD*

Maximizing pro-apoptotic protein levels at The Ohio State University, Columbus

*Initial Year

DAMON RUNYON-RACHLEFF

Innovation Award Stage 2 Funding

CALIFORNIA

Scott J. Dixon, PhD*

Exploring the role of reductive stress in promoting cancer cell death at Stanford University, Stanford

Nicholas T. Ingolia, PhD

Cis-regulatory code for the translational control of gene expression at the University of California, Berkeley

Peter J. Turnbaugh, PhD*

Nadia's Gift Foundation Innovator

The gut microbiome: an unexpected contributor to cancer drug resistance at the University of California, San Francisco

Roberto Zoncu, PhD*

Identifying and disabling organelle circuits that fuel cancer cell metabolism at the University of California, Berkeley

MARYLAND

Christopher M. Jewell, PhD

Harnessing intra-lymph node controlled release to study and enhance tumor immunity at the University of Maryland, College Park

оніо

Christin E. Burd, PhD*

Exploiting mutational specificity to target RAS-driven melanoma at The Ohio State University, Columbus

WASHINGTON

Brian H. Shirts, MD, PhD

Participatory genetics for defining genotype-phenotype associations of rare cancer variants at the University of Washington, Seattle

WISCONSIN

Philip A. Romero, PhD*

Digital circulating tumor cell detection using scalable molecular logic at the University of Wisconsin, Madison

*Initial Year

Clinical Investigator Award Committee

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Chief of the Division of Biostatistics and Epidemiology Professor, Department of Healthcare Policy and Research Weill Cornell Medicine New York, New York

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Barbara J. Bonner Chair in Lung Cancer Research Professor, Division of Internal Medicine Director, James Thoracic Oncology Center The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center Columbus, Ohio

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Senior Vice President,
Director and Full Member
Clinical Research Division
Fred Hutchinson Cancer
Research Center
Head, Department of Medicine
Division of Medical Oncology
University of Washington
Seattle, Washington

S. Gail Eckhardt, MD

Associate Dean of Cancer Programs Director of the LIVESTRONG Cancer Institute Chair, Department of Oncology Dell Medical School The University of Texas at Austin Austin, Texas

Howard A. Fine, MD

Director of the Brain Tumor Center
New York-Presbyterian/Weill
Cornell Medical Center
Associate Director for
Translational Research
Sandra and Edward Meyer
Cancer Center
Feil Professor of Medicine
Chief, Division of Neuro-Oncology
Department of Neurology
Weill Cornell Medicine
New York, New York

Amato J. Giaccia, PhD

Jack, Lulu and Sam Willson
Professor in Cancer Biology
Director, Division of Radiation
and Cancer Biology
Department of Radiation Oncology
Stanford University School of Medicine
Stanford, California

Carl H. June, MD

Richard W. Vague Professor in Immunotherapy
Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine
Perelman School of Medicine
Director, Center for Cellular Immunotherapies
Director, Parker Institute for Cancer Immunotherapy
Abramson Cancer Center
University of Pennsylvania
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Andrew L. Kung, MD, PhD

Chair, Department of Pediatrics Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center New York, New York

Drew M. Pardoll, MD, PhD

Director, Bloomberg-Kimmel Institute for Cancer Immunotherapy Co-Director, Cancer Immunology Program Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center Abeloff Professor in Oncology Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine Baltimore, Maryland

Ramon Parsons, MD, PhD

Director, Tisch Cancer Institute
Icahn Scholar
Ward-Coleman Chair Cancer Research
Professor and Chairman, Department
of Oncological Sciences
Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai
New York, New York

David R. Piwnica-Worms, MD, PhD

Chair and Professor, Department of Cancer Systems Imaging Deputy Division Head, Research Affairs, Division of Diagnostic Imaging The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center Houston, Texas

Stanley R. Riddell, MD

Full Member, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center Clinical Research Division Program in Immunology Professor of Medicine and Oncology University of Washington School of Medicine Seattle, Washington

Kwok-Kin Wong, MD, PhD

Anne Murnick Cogan and David H.
Cogan Professor of Oncology
Department of Medicine
Director, Division of Hematology/
Medical Oncology
Laura and Isaac Perlmutter
Cancer Center
NYU Langone Health
New York, New York

Sandra L. Wong, MD, MS

Chair, Department of Surgery
Senior Vice President of the
Surgical Service Line
Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center
The Geisel School of Medicine
at Dartmouth
Lebanon, New Hampshire

FOUNDING MEMBER

Richard J. O'Reilly, MD

Chief, Pediatric Bone Marrow Transplant Service Claire L. Tow Chair in Pediatric Oncology Research Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center New York, New York

Clinical Investigator Awards

CALIFORNIA

Ami S. Bhatt, MD, PhD

Applying microbiome-based therapeutics in cancer patients with Linda Boxer, MD, PhD, and Michael P. Snyder, PhD, Stanford University School of Medicine, Stanford

Collin M. Blakely, MD, PhD*

Doris Duke-Damon Runyon Clinical Investigator Mechanisms of incomplete response and primary resistance to osimertinib in EGFR-mutant lung cancer with Trever G. Bivona, MD, PhD, University of California, San Francisco

Catherine C. Smith, MD*

Defining structure, function and therapeutic impact of oncogenic FLT3 mutations with Neil P. Shah, MD, PhD, University of California, San Francisco

ILLINOIS

Jaehyuk Choi, MD, PhD

Doris Duke-Damon Runyon Clinical Investigator Identification of genetic basis of altered T cell receptor signaling in cutaneous T cell lymphoma with Stephen D. Miller, PhD, and John D. Crispino, PhD, Northwestern University, Chicago

MASSACHUSETTS

Geoffrey R. Oxnard, MD

Gordon Family Clinical Investigator
Noninvasive genotyping of cell-free
plasma DNA (cfDNA) as a tool for
guiding personalized lung cancer
care with Pasi Janne, MD, PhD, DanaFarber Cancer Institute, Boston

Mark G. Shrime, MD, PhD

Cash transfers for cancer surgery in West Africa: their health and economic consequences with John G. Meara, MD, DMD, MBA, Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary, Boston

MISSOURI

Vivek K. Arora, MD, PhD

Defining a targetable oncogenic dyad in bladder cancer with Lee Ratner, MD, PhD, Washington University in St. Louis

Gavin P. Dunn, MD, PhD

Characterizing the immunogenic landscape of glioblastoma with John DePersio, MD, PhD, and Robert Schreiber, PhD, Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis

NEW YORK

Vinod P. Balachandran, MD

William Raveis Charitable Fund Investigator
Defining the evolutionary dynamics
and antigen potential of neoantigens
for human pancreatic cancer
immunotherapy with Steven D.
Leach, MD, and Jedd D. Wolchok,
MD, PhD, Memorial Sloan Kettering
Cancer Center, New York

Christopher E. Barbieri, MD, PhD

MetLife Foundation Clinical Investigator Presurgical trials to target distinct subclasses of localized prostate cancer with Lewis C. Cantley, PhD, Weill Cornell Medicine, New York

Adrienne A. Boire, MD, PhD

William Raveis Charitable Fund Investigator
Molecular determinants of
leptomeningeal metastasis: a
translational approach with Joan
Massagué, PhD, Memorial Sloan
Kettering Cancer Center, New York

Matthew D. Hellmann, MD*

Defining intratumoral and peripheral mechanisms mediating initiation of response, durability, and resistance to PD-1 blockade to inform rational immunotherapeutic development in NSCLC with Charles M. Rudin, MD, PhD, and Jedd D. Wolchok, MD, PhD, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York

Andrew M. Intlekofer, MD, PhD*

Metabolic coupling of the hypoxic niche to stemness with Ross L. Levine, MD, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York

Alex Kentsis, MD, PhD

Richard A. Lumsden Foundation Investigator
Mechanism and function of
regulatory signaling in acute myeloid
leukemia with Scott A. Armstrong,
MD, PhD, and Ross L. Levine, MD,
Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer
Center, New York

Christopher A. Klebanoff, MD*

Clinical development of nextgeneration T cell receptor (TCR)based adoptive immunotherapies for the treatment of patients with common epithelial malignancies with Michel Sadelain, MD, PhD, and Larry Norton, MD, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York

Piro Lito, MD, PhD

Modeling the evolution of resistance to ERK signaling inhibitors at the single cell level with Neal X. Rosen, MD, PhD, and Charles M. Rudin, MD, PhD, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York

Heather L. Yeo, MD

Use of mobile applications to evaluate post surgical recovery in aging patients with GI cancer with Manish A. Shah, MD, and Deborah Estrin, PhD, MS, Weill Cornell Medicine, New York

PENNSYLVANIA

Brian C. Capell, MD, PhD*

Defining the role of epigenetic enhancer dysfunction in epithelial carcinogenesis with Shelley L. Berger, PhD, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia

*Initial Year

Clinical Investigator Award Continuation Grants

CALIFORNIA

L. Elizabeth Budde, MD, PhD

Targeting CD123 using chimeric antigen receptor T cells for treatment of acute myeloid leukemia with Stephen J. Forman, MD, FACP, City of Hope, Duarte

MASSACHUSETTS

Priscilla K. Brastianos, MD*

Investigation of novel targeted therapeutic approaches for brain metastases with Keith T. Flaherty, MD, and Tracy T. Batchelor, MD, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston

Eliezer M. Van Allen, MD*

Dissecting response to conventional and emerging DNA damage and repair therapies with Geoffrey I. Shapiro, MD, PhD, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Boston

MISSOURI

Stephen T. Oh, MD, PhD

Targeting aberrant signaling pathways in myeloproliferative neoplasms with Daniel Link, MD, Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis

NEW YORK

Joshua Brody, MD

William Raveis Charitable Fund Investigator Flt3L-primed 'in situ' vaccination for low-grade lymphoma with Nina Bhardwaj, MD, PhD, and Miriam Merad, MD, PhD, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, New York

WASHINGTON

Aude G. Chapuis, MD*

Multifaceted transgenic TCR approach to high-risk AML with Philip D. Greenberg, MD, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, Seattle

*Initial Award

DAMON RUNYON

Fellowship Award Committee

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Institute Investigator
Bloomberg Distinguished Professor
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Jayanta Chaudhuri, PhD

Professor Immunology Program Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center New York, New York

Jennifer Gerton, PhD

Investigator
Associate Professor, Department
of Biochemistry and
Molecular Biology
The University of Kansas School
of Medicine
Stowers Institute for Medical Research
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Howard Hughes Medical Institute Scholar Fergus F. Wallace Professor and Chair, Department of Genetics Yale University School of Medicine New Haven, Connecticut

Lucy A. Godley, MD, PhD

Co-Director, Center for Clinical Cancer Genetics Professor, Department of Medicine Section of Hematology and Oncology Cancer Research Center The University of Chicago Medicine Chicago, Illinois

Fellowship Award Committee

(continued)

Richard Gregory, PhD

Professor
Department of Biological Chemistry
and Molecular Pharmacology
Department of Pediatrics
Harvard Medical School
Harvard Stem Cell Institute
The Stem Cell Program at
Boston Children's Hospital
Boston, Massachusetts

Howard C. Hang, PhD

Richard E. Salomon Family Associate Professor Laboratory of Chemical Biology and Microbial Pathogenesis The Rockefeller University New York, New York

E. Jane Albert Hubbard, PhD

Professor
Department of Cell Biology
Skirball Institute of
Biomolecular Medicine
New York University School
of Medicine
New York, New York

Susan Kaech, PhD

Professor and Director NOMIS Laboratories for Immunobiology and Microbial Studies NOMIS Chair Salk Institute for Biological Studies La Jolla, California

Jonathan C. Kagan, PhD

Professor of Pediatrics Harvard Medical School Shwachman Chair in Gastroenterology Boston Children's Hospital Boston, Massachusetts

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Philip A. Newmark, PhD

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Institute Investigator
Burnell R. Roberts Chair in
Regenerative Biology
Morgridge Institute for Research
Department of Zoology
University of Wisconsin
Madison, Wisconsin

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Professor
Helen Diller Family Endowed Chair
in Basic Research
University of California San
Francisco School of Medicine
Member, UCSF Comprehensive
Cancer Center
San Francisco, California

Susan R. Schwab, PhD

Associate Professor
Department of Pathology
Skirball Institute of
Biomolecular Medicine
New York University School
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New York, New York

M. Celeste Simon, PhD

Scientific Director and Investigator
Abramson Family Cancer
Research Institute
Associate Director-Shared Resources,
Abramson Cancer Center
Arthur H. Rubenstein,
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Department of Cell and
Developmental Biology
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Matthew G. Vander Heiden, MD, PhD

Eisen and Chang Career
Development Professor
Associate Professor of Biology
Associate Director, Koch Institute
for Integrative Cancer Research
at MIT
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Amy Wagers, PhD

Forst Family Professor Stem Cell and Regenerative Biology Harvard University, Cambridge Senior Investigator Joslin Diabetes Center Harvard Medical School Boston, Massachusetts

Fellowship Awards

CALIFORNIA

Salk Institute

Corina E. Antal, PhD

Robert Black Fellow Stromal reprogramming as a therapeutic approach in pancreatic cancer with Ronald M. Evans, PhD

Jeanine L. Van Nostrand, PhD

Elucidating the AMPK-dependent regulation of mTOR signaling in the metabolic checkpoint of tumorigenesis with Reuben J. Shaw, PhD

Scripps Research Institute

Marsha M. Hirschi, PhD*

Dennis and Marsha Dammerman Fellow Molecular engineering of an optically controlled glutamate receptor with Gabriel C. Lander, PhD

Joseph D. Schonhoft, PhD

Merck Fellow Probing the relation between sequence, aggregation and proteotoxicity in cardiac amyloidoses caused by free antibody light chains

Xiaoyu Zhang, PhD*

with Jeffery W. Kelly, PhD

Discovery of chemical probes that support targeted protein degradation in human cancer with Benjamin F. Cravatt, PhD

Stanford University

Christopher J. Cambier, PhD

HHMI Fellow In vivo characterization of mycobacterial cording with Carolyn R. Bertozzi, PhD

Kelsie A. Eichel, PhD*

Robert A. Swanson Family Fellow Mechanisms of polarized membrane protein trafficking with Kang Shen, PhD

Ryan A. Flynn, MD, PhD

The interplay between cellular metabolism and RNA homeostasis in disease with Carolyn R. Bertozzi, PhD

Victoria Hung, PhD

Fraternal Order of Eagles Fellow Defining the post-translational landscape of ribosomes in control of gene regulation and cell fate with Maria Barna, PhD

John C. Janetzko, PhD*

A biophysical approach to studying GRK-GPCR complexes with Brian K. Kobilka, MD

Chuan Li, PhD*

Connie and Bob Lurie Fellow Quantifying epistasis between tumor suppressor genes and revealing the underlying expression profiles at the single-cell level in murine lung adenocarcinoma with Dmitri Petrov, PhD

Jianjin Shi, PhD

Layton Family Fellow Biochemical and genetic dissection of axon degeneration with Marc Tessier-Lavigne, PhD

Shaogeng Steven Tang, PhD

Merck Fellow

Toward small-molecule inhibitors against human immune checkpoint PD-1 with Peter S. Kim, PhD

Leeat Yankielowicz-Keren, PhD

Studying the tumor immune microenvironment in breast cancer using a novel multiplexed imaging platform with Michael R. Angelo, MD, PhD, and Edgar G. Engleman, PhD

Stanford University School of Medicine

Anupam K. Chakravarty, PhD

Investigating the phenomenon of epigenetic inheritance mediated by non-amyloid protein aggregates with Daniel F. Jarosz, PhD

Christopher P. Lapointe, PhD*

Regulatory roles of the 3' untranslated region in human translation with Joseph Puglisi, PhD

Kathrin Leppek, PhD

Layton Family Fellow Mechanistic characterization of

5'UTR RNA elements that confer translational specificity to shape vertebrate embryonic development with Maria Barna, PhD

Fangfei Qu, PhD*

Decoding the molecular and cellular mechanisms of the growth of brain metastases with Julien Sage, PhD

Albert G. Tsai, MD, PhD[§]

Diagnosis of hematologic malignancies from paucicellular aspirate material using highly multiplexed single cell analysis with Sean C. Bendall, PhD

Jing Lin Xie, PhD*

The Mark Foundation for Cancer Research Fellow Remembering the past: epigenetic mechanisms of cancer drug resistance with Daniel F. Jarosz, PhD

University of California, Berkeley

Gina V. Caldas, PhD

Analysis of CSR-function in C. elegans embryonic cell division with Abby F. Dernburg, PhD

Allison Didychuk, PhD*

Viral mimics of host transcription factors in oncogenic herpes viruses with Britt Glaunsinger, PhD

Stephanie Gates, PhD*

HHMI Fellow

Decoding the ubiquitin receptor recognition mechanism of the 26S proteasome with Andreas Martin, PhD

Jamie Lahvic, PhD*

The Mark Foundation for Cancer Research Fellow Uncovering cell non-autonomous mechanisms of tumor suppression with Iswar Hariharan, MMBS, PhD

Andrew C. Murley, PhD

HHMI Fellow

Cell non-autonomous communication of ER stress resistance with Andrew G. Dillin, PhD

University of California, Los Angeles

Magdalena E. Potok, PhD

The relationship between epigenetic gene silencing, nuclear architecture, and genome stability with Steven E. Jacobsen, PhD

Christina M. Termini, PhD*

Proteoglycan remodeling of the bone marrow niche regulates hematopoietic stem cell regeneration with John P. Chute, MD

University of California, San Diego

Richard W. Baker, PhD

Understanding the mechanisms of SWI/SNF-mediated chromatin remodeling and its misregulation in cancer with Andres E. Leschziner, PhD

University of California, San Francisco

Vladislav Belyy, PhD

Mapping the unfolded protein response signaling network with optogenetic actuators with Peter Walter, PhD

Kyle G. Daniels, PhD

Controlling T cell signaling and fate choice using synthetic receptors with Wendell A. Lim, PhD

Qi Hu, PhD

Design of inhibitors of cancerassociated mutant GNAS with Kevan M. Shokat, PhD

Jeffrey A. Hussmann, PhD

Rebecca Ridley Kry Fellow Genome-wide measurement of ribosome spacing on individual transcripts with Carol A. Gross, PhD

Brian J. Laidlaw, PhD

HHMI Fellow

Role of EBI2 in the regulation of lymphocyte migration during viral infection and cancer with Jason G. Cyster, PhD

Kara L. McKinley, PhD

Mechanisms and functions of cellular rearrangements in epithelia with Ronald D. Vale, PhD

Lyndsay M. Murrow, PhD

Fate specification of mammary stem cells by cell self-sorting with Zev J. Gartner, PhD

Trang Nguyen, PhD*

Bypassing the unresponsiveness of T cell anergy and exhaustion with Arthur Weiss, MD, PhD

Thomas M. Norman, PhD

Identifying the stochastic determinants of drug resistance with Jonathan S. Weissman, PhD

Linda T. Vo, PhD*

Off-the-shelf T cells from human pluripotent stem cells with precise tumor recognition using combinatorial antigen-sensing circuits with Jeffrey A. Bluestone, PhD

Lan Wang, PhD

Conferring organelle-specificity to tail-anchored proteins with Peter Walter, PhD

Andrew L. Wolfe, PhD

The therapeutic potential and biological effects of targeting oncogenic KRAS with Frank McCormick, PhD

Jiaxi Wu, PhD

Mechanism of dendritic cell missingself recognition and migration to activate CD4 T cell responses with Jason G. Cyster, PhD

Yichen Xu, PhD

Elucidating the role of ER as a novel RNA-binding protein and its function in regulating translation with Davide Ruggero, PhD

Dian Yang, PhD*

Dissecting intratumoral heterogeneity and hierarchy at single cell resolution with Jonathan Weissman, PhD, and Trever G. Bivona, MD, PhD

Ziyang Zhang, PhD

HHMI Fellow

Controlling the activity of bispecific T cell engagers with a chemically cleavable molecular switch with Kevan M. Shokat, PhD

Xin Zhou, PhD

Merck Fellow

Engineering "Glue" domains to enable cryo-EM study of small cancer protein structures with James A. Wells, PhD

CONNECTICUT

Yale School of Medicine

Zhuobin Liang, PhD

Mechanistic dissection of the Fanconi anemia pathway in coordinating R-loop processing and DNA repair with Patrick Sung, DPhil, and Gary Kupfer, MD

Esen Sefik, PhD*

HHMI Fellow

The effect of microbes, diet on the intestinal immune system in the context of obesity with Richard A. Flavell, PhD

Seyed Fakhreddin Torabi, PhD

Robert Black Fellow

Evolution of triplex-forming RNAs from random sequences: a search for additional MALAT1-like triplex motifs with Joan A. Steitz, PhD

ILLINOIS

The University of Chicago

John D. Leonard, PhD

Robert Black Fellow

Self-antigen recognition by regulatory T cells with Erin J. Adams, PhD, and Peter A. Savage, PhD

Sigrid Nachtergaele, PhD

The dynamic N1-methyladenosine methylome in eukaryotic mRNA with Chuan He, PhD

University of Illinois

Daniel J. Blair, PhD

Illini 4000 Fellow

An automated small molecule synthesizer for the discovery of new anti-cancer agents with Martin D. Burke, MD, PhD

Sarah Z. Tasker, PhD

HHMI Fellow

Synthesis and evaluation of a collection of complex molecules biased for penetration of the blood-brain barrier with Paul J. Hergenrother, PhD

MARYLAND

Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine

Xintong Dong, PhD

HHMI Fellow

Investigating ligand-receptor interactions between defensins and mrgprs in cutaneous inflammation and wound healing with Xinzhong Dong, PhD

Daniel H. Goldman, PhD

Merck Fellow

Elucidating the role of the exon junction complex in regulating translation of spliced mRNA with Rachel Green, PhD

Vu Quang Nguyen, PhD

Role of chromatin organization in dynamics of transcription initiation with Carl Wu, PhD

Evan J. Worden, PhD

The mechanistic basis of crosstalk between histone H2B ubiquitylation and H₃K₇₉ methylation with Cynthia Wolberger, PhD

Boris Zinshteyn, PhD

HHMI Fellow

Mechanisms of splicing-independent nonsense-mediated mRNA decay with Rachel Green, PhD

National Institutes of Health

Danfeng Cai, PhD

Protein crowding and protein folding landscapes as predictors of healthy and diseased cell states with Jennifer Lippincott-Schwartz, PhD

Warakorn Kulalert, PhD*

Characterization of the microbiotamediated cutaneous neuroimmune interface and its impacts on tumorigenesis and cancer therapy with Yasmine Belkaid, PhD

MASSACHUSETTS

Boston Children's Hospital

Megan L. Insco, MD, PhD[§]

William Raveis Charitable Fund Fellow Investigating transcriptional cyclin dependent kinases as novel melanoma drug targets with Leonard I. Zon, MD

Yuxiang Zhang, MD, PhD*

HHMI Fellow

Mechanisms that promote DNA double strand break clusters in brain and liver with Frederick W. Alt, PhD

Brigham and Women's Hospital

Emma V. Watson, PhD

Suzanne and Bob Wright Fellow Metabolic stress response: Exploring transcript-level regulation of metabolic feedback with Stephen J. Elledge, PhD

Broad Institute

Matthew Bakalar, PhD*

Predicting the interactions of T cell receptors with peptide-MHC complexes with Nir Hacohen, PhD

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute

Phillip A. Dumesic, MD, PhD[§]

Identification of muscle-secreted factors responsible for local and systemic effects of exercise with Bruce M. Spiegelman, PhD

Tikvah K. Hayes, PhD

David M. Livingston, MD, Fellow Systematic genomic and functional analysis of small cell lung cancer with Matthew L. Meyerson, MD, PhD

Whitney L. Johnson, PhD*

Using organoid cancer models to identify genome catastrophe mechanisms with David S. Pellman, MD

Neil T. Umbreit, PhD

Elucidating the mechanism of chromosome bridge resolution with David S. Pellman, MD

Eric S. Wang, PhD

Robert Black Fellow

Enhancing anti-tumor immunity via pharmacological inhibition of kinases with Nathanael Gray, PhD

Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health

Jeeyun Chung, PhD

Unraveling the cellular mechanism of lipid droplet biogenesis with Tobias C. Walther, PhD, and Robert V. Farese Jr., PhD

Harvard Medical School

Justin A. Bosch, PhD

Characterizing novel molecules and mechanisms that mediate cellcell communication with Norbert Perrimon, PhD

Anne E. Dodson, PhD

Transgenerational inheritance of structure-based infections with Scott G. Kennedy, PhD

Ivana Gasic, PhD

Merck Fellow

Molecular elucidation of the interphase microtubule integrity response (MIR) with Timothy Mitchison, PhD

Zheiian Ji, PhD*

HHMI Fellow

Function of the CDc48 ATPase in protein degradation with Tom A. Rapoport, PhD

Lucy Liu, PhD*

In vivo characterization of muscle autophagy in health and disease with Norbert Perrimon, PhD

Nagarajan Nandagopal, PhD*

Philip O'Bryan Montgomery, Jr., MD, Fellow Signal integration by bHLH circuits to enable cell fate decisions with Galit Lahav, PhD, and Sean Megason, PhD

Natasha M. O'Brown, PhD

Molecular and cellular mechanisms of transcytosis regulation in blood-brain barrier function with Chenghua Gu, PhD

Sarah J. Pfau, PhD

Investigating the molecular determinants of blood-brain barrier heterogeneity with Chenghua Gu, PhD

Deepshika Ramanan, PhD

National Mah Jongg League Fellow Identifying functions of regulatory T cell subsets in intestinal inflammation and colorectal cancer with Christophe Benoist, MD, PhD

Justin L. Sparks, PhD

Replicative helicase bypass of bulky DNA adducts with Johannes C. Walter, PhD

Benjamin M. Stinson, PhD

Mechanism of DNA processing during non-homologous end joining with Johannes C. Walter, PhD, and Joseph L. Loparo, PhD

Damon Runyon Fellows are incredibly enthusiastic. They are the brightest minds out there, the leaders of the scientific community. They are essentially the key to going forward in science.



AARON F. STRAIGHT, PhD

Damon Runyon Fellowship Award Committee Member, 2018-Present Damon Runyon-Gordon Family Scholar, 2005-2007 Damon Runyon Fellow, 1998-2001 Stanford University School of Medicine

Chuchu Zhang, PhD*

Molecular dissection of area postrema and its role in nausea with Stephen Liberles, PhD

Harvard University

Philip B. Abitua, PhD

Developmental mechanisms of killifish cell dispersion and aggregation with Alexander F. Schier, PhD

Brian J. Beliveau, PhD

HHMI Fellow

Decoding Polycomb-mediated gene regulation in single cells with single-molecule super resolution imaging and synthetic biology with Peng Yin, PhD

Monica E. McCallum, PhD

Understanding alanosine biosynthesis to discover new cancer chemotherapeutics with Emily P. Balskus, PhD

Christopher Wilson, PhD*

Marion Abbe Fellow Development of a programmable writer and eraser of m6A RNA methylation with David R. Liu, PhD

Massachusetts General Hospital

Kai Mao, PhD

Mechanisms of xenobiotic surveillance and regulation with Gary B. Ruvkun, PhD

Iva Tchasovnikarova, PhD

Deciphering the role of chromatin remodeling in epigenetic repression by the HUSH complex with Robert E. Kingston, PhD

Kurt J. Warnhoff, PhD

Molybdenum cofactor biosynthetic enzymes modulate miRNA biology and development with Gary B. Ruvkun, PhD

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Alexander M. Jaeger, PhD

HHMI Fellow

Targeting protein folding mechanisms to stimulate anti-tumor immune responses with Tyler E. Jacks, PhD

Lindsay M. LaFave, PhD

Investigating epigenetic mechanisms of transformation in SWI/SNFmutant non-small cell lung cancer with Tyler E. Jacks, PhD

Allison N. Lau, PhD

Robert Black Fellow Understanding metabolic heterogeneity in pancreatic cancer with Matthew G. Vander Heiden, MD, PhD

Evan C. Lien, PhD

Impact of diet on tumor metabolism and progression with Matthew G. Vander Heiden, MD, PhD

Jose M. Ordovas-Montanes, PhD

HHMI Fellow

Single-cell genomic approaches for tracing the contribution of inflammation to human colon cancer with Alex K. Shalek, PhD

Peter M. Westcott, PhD

Exploiting endogenous mutational processes in cancer to enhance response to immunotherapy with Tyler E. Jacks, PhD

Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research

Laura V. Blanton, PhD

Lallage Feazel Wall Fellow The impact of sex chromosome constitution on immune cell gene expression and function with David C. Page, MD

Nora Kory, PhD

HHMI Fellow

Identifying new components of mitochondrial one-carbon metabolism with David M. Sabatini. MD, PhD

Daniel H. Lin, PhD*

HHMI Fellow

Global influence of mRNA conformation on eukaryotic translational regulation with David P. Bartel, PhD

Benjamin R. Sabari, PhD

Investigating the role of aberrant genome structuring in T-ALL with Richard A. Young, PhD

MICHIGAN

University of Michigan

Swathi Yadlapalli, PhD

Neural and genetic basis of metabolic regulation with Orie T. Shafer, PhD, and Edgar Meyhofer, PhD

MISSOURI

Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis

Darryl A. Wesener, PhD

Synthetic food particles for studying human gut microbiota function with Jeffrey I. Gordon, MD

NEW JERSEY

Princeton University

Andrew A. Bridges, PhD

HHMI Fellow

Bacterial cell fates: The role of quorum sensing in biofilm patterning with Bonnie L. Bassler, PhD

Antony J. Burton, PhD

Sculpting chromatin architecture in live cells using protein chemistry with Tom W. Muir, PhD

NEW YORK

Columbia University

J. Brooks Crickard, PhD

The Mark Foundation for Cancer Research Fellow Visualizing the strand invasion during homologous recombination on the single molecule level with Eric C. Greene, PhD

Cornell University

Sudeep Banjade, PhD

HHMI Fellow

Division of labor in ESCRT-III proteins during polymer assembly and membrane remodeling with Scott D. Emr, PhD

Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center

Harihar Basnet, PhD

Identifying determinants of latency in brain metastatic breast cancer cells with Joan Massagué, PhD

Bryan C. King, PhD

Berger Foundation Fellow AMPK-induced catabolism of extracellular proteins: a novel survival mechanism for nutrientdeprived cancer cells with Craig B. Thompson, MD

William Razzell, PhD

The role of tension in Hippo pathway signaling with Jennifer A. Zallen, PhD

Aaron D. Viny, MD§

William Raveis Charitable Fund Fellow Role of the Cohesin complex in oncogenic transformation of AML with Ross L. Levine, MD

New York University School of Medicine

Robert S. Banh, PhD*

Merck Fellow

Metabolic contribution of sensory neurons, via peripheral axons, to pancreatic tumorigenesis and serine metabolism with Alec Kimmelman, MD, PhD, and Michael Pacold, MD, PhD

Lacy J. Barton, PhD

William Raveis Charitable Fund Fellow Mechanisms of directed cell migration in a complex in vivo environment with Ruth Lehmann, PhD

June-Yong Lee, PhD

Investigation of potential roles of serum amyloid A in peripheral Th17 cell pathogenicity with Dan R. Littman, MD, PhD

The Rockefeller University

Aleksey Chudnovskiy, PhD*

Defining dendritic cell-T cell interaction history within the tumor microenvironment using enzymatic labeling with Gabriel D. Victora, PhD

Yusong R. Guo, PhD*

HHMI Fellow

Structural and mechanistic characterization of mechanosensitive Piezo channels with Roderick MacKinnon, MD

Jonathan R. Whicher, PhD

GE Asset Management Fellow Structure and mechanism of the voltage-gated potassium channel hEag1 with Roderick MacKinnon, MD

Linghe Xi, PhD

Dale F. and Betty Ann Frey Fellow WNT signaling and fate specification of normal versus tumorigenic stem cells with Elaine V. Fuchs, PhD



The Damon Runyon Fellowship was liberating and enabling for my science, as it provided me with resources to freely test different ideas.



SUNGWOOK WOO, PhD Damon Runyon Fellow, 2014-2018 Harvard University

Weill Cornell Medicine

Eric E. Gardner, PharmD, PhD*

Kenneth G. and Elaine A. Langone Fellow Interrogating lung adenocarcinoma transformation to small cell lung cancer at single cell resolution with Harold E. Varmus, MD

Oregon Health and Science University

Yunsik Kang, PhD*

Molecular mechanisms regulating phagocytosis of neurons with Marc R. Freeman, PhD

PENNSYLVANIA

University of Pennsylvania

Geoffrey P. Dann, PhD*

Merck Fellow

Proteomics to bridge protein arginylation, chromatin, and cancer with Benjamin A. Garcia, PhD

Romain Riscal, PhD*

Fructose-1,6 bisphosphatase nuclear localization, new functions and implication in hepatocellular carcinoma progression with M. Celeste Simon, PhD

TFXAS

University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center

Lindsay B. Case, PhD

Robert Black Fellow Regulation of integrin clustering on supported lipid bilayers with Michael Rosen, PhD

Elise C. Jeffery, PhD

Characterizing a new hematopoietic stem cell niche factor with Sean J. Morrison, PhD

UTAH

University of Utah School of Medicine

Alesia N. McKeown, PhD

HHMI Fellow

Novel roles for retrogenes in host immunity with Nels C. Elde, PhD, and Cedric Feschotte, PhD

WASHINGTON

Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center

Tera C. Levin, PhD

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Master microbial manipulators: how hosts are shaped by bacterial infections with Harmit S. Malik, PhD

Jeremy I. Roop, PhD

Fayez Sarofim Fellow

Defining virus-host co-evolutionary dynamics that underlie the unusually broad HIV neutralizing antibody response in infants with Julie M. Overbaugh, PhD

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Impact of heterogeneity on the cellular recognition of influenza infection with Jesse D. Bloom, PhD

Ying Qi Shirleen Soh, PhD

Mapping paths and mechanisms of virus-host adaptation with Jesse D. Bloom, PhD

Yi Yin, PhD

Global analysis of DNA break repair by single-cell sequencing with Jay A. Shendure, MD, PhD

GERMANY

European Molecular Biology Laboratory

Albert Tsai, PhD

Single-molecule imaging of transcription factors binding dynamics in Drosophila embryos with Justin Crocker, PhD

*Initial Year

§ Physician-Scientist



Damon Runyon selects and supports some of the most driven research in the scientific community, but inspiration alone cannot drive progress. As with all human endeavors, practical support is essential.



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The Damon Runyon-Sohn award was a vital resource for me as an early career scientist with the goal of making an impact in the treatment of pediatric cancer. I was afforded time to explore the biology of these malignancies and make discoveries that will benefit the lives of patients.



MARK W. ZIMMERMAN, PhD

Damon Runyon-Sohn Pediatric Fellow, 2014-2018 Damon Runyon-Jake Wetchler Awardee, 2016 Dana-Farber Cancer Institute

DAMON RUNYON-SOHN

Pediatric Cancer Fellowship Awards

CALIFORNIA

Özlem Aksoy, PhD

Understanding the role of translational control in humanized mouse models for medulloblastoma with Davide Ruggero, PhD, University of California, San Francisco

Zhipena Lu, PhD

Layton Family Fellow of the Damon Runyon-Sohn Pediatric Cancer Fellowship Award Elucidating the role of dynamic RNA structures in cancer with Howard Y. Chang, MD, PhD, Stanford University School of Medicine, Stanford

Kathryn R. Taylor, PhD

The effect of neuronal activity on pediatric glioma invasion with Michelle L. Monje, MD, PhD, Stanford University School of Medicine, Stanford

MARYLAND

Stacy L. Cooper, MD§

The Cebpa +37kb enhancer is a critical target of transformation in acute myeloid leukemia with Alan D. Friedman, MD, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore

Michael A. Koldobskiy, MD, PhD[§]

DNA methylation stochasticity in pediatric pre-B cell acute lymphoblastic leukemia with Andrew P. Feinberg, MD, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore

Cara A. Rabik, MD, PhD§

Determination of the role of WT1 in hematopoiesis and leukemogenesis with Patrick A. Brown, MD, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore

MASSACHUSETTS

Adam D. Durbin, MD*

Interrogation of neuroblastoma dependencies and non-coding RNAs on the core-regulatory circuitry for therapeutic inhibition with A. Thomas Look, MD, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Boston

Amanda Balboni Iniquez, PhD

Targeting the EWS-FLI oncoprotein in Ewing sarcoma with CDK12/13 inhibitors with Kimberly Stegmaier, MD, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Boston

Sarah N. Olsen, PhD*

Targeted degradation of the MLL-AF9 fusion oncoprotein in acute myeloid leukemia with Scott A. Armstrong, MD, PhD, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Boston

Maxim Pimkin, MD, PhD*§

Divergent core transcriptional circuitries highlight context-specific vulnerabilities in AML with Stuart Orkin, MD, Harvard Medical School, Boston

MICHIGAN

Challice L. Bonifant, MD, PhD[§]

Dual-antigen targeting by ENG-T cells as improved anti-AML therapy with Pavan Reddy, MD, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

NEW YORK

Robert L. Bowman, PhD

Interrogating the subclonal architecture and functional contributions of mutation order in FLT3-ITD mutant AML with Ross L. Levine, MD, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York

Srinjoy Chakraborti, PhD*

Mining pHLA and T cell receptor (TCR) specificities by phage display for de novo TCR engineering and personalized cancer therapy with Jonathan R. Lai, PhD, Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Bronx

Marissa Rashkovan, PhD

Targeting metabolic vulnerabilities in ETP-ALL with Adolfo A. Ferrando, MD, PhD, Columbia University Medical Center, New York

Yadira M. Soto-Feliciano, PhD

Dissecting the role of Menin in acute leukemia with C. David Allis, PhD, The Rockefeller University, New York

WASHINGTON

Jay F. Sarthy, MD, PhD*§

Characterization of the epigenomic landscape of diffuse midline gliomas with Steven Henikoff, PhD, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, Seattle

DAMON RUNYON-DALE F. FREY AWARD

for Breakthrough Scientists

Ryan D. Baldridge, PhD*

Investigating the mechanism of retro-translocation by ERAD at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan

Liron Bar-Peled, PhD*

Identification of cysteine liabilities in NRF2-driven cancers at Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, Massachusetts

Chao Lu, PhD*

Giannandrea Family Breakthrough Scientist Chromatin dysregulation as driver of oncogenesis at Columbia University, New York, New York

Matthew P. Miller, PhD*

Deciphering tension-dependent stabilization of kinetochoremicrotubule interactions at the University of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah

Shruti Naik, PhD*

Marilyn and Scott Urdang Breakthrough Scientist Immune-epidermal stem cell crosstalk in skin inflammation at New York University School of Medicine, New York, New York

Neel H. Shah, PhD*

Identifying divergent mechanisms of oncogenicity in tyrosine kinases at Columbia University, New York, New York

*Initial Year

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Immunology Research
The University of Texas MD
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Houston, Texas

Physician-Scientist Training Awards

Pavan Bachireddy, MD

Coevolution of tumor and T cell heterogeneity following immunotherapy with Catherine J. Wu, MD, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Boston, Massachusetts

Giada Bianchi, MD, PhD

Damon Runyon-Celgene Physician-Scientist
Molecular mechanisms of ROBO1 in
multiple myeloma pathogenesis with
Kenneth C. Anderson, MD, DanaFarber Cancer Institute, Boston,
Massachusetts

Kristopher R. Bosse, MD

GPC2 as an oncogene and immunotherapeutic target in highrisk neuroblastoma with John M. Maris, MD, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Julia C. Carnevale, MD

Developing new therapeutic approaches for pancreatic cancer with homologous recombination repair defects with Alan Ashworth, PhD, University of California, San Francisco, California

Jennifer L. Caswell-Jin, MD

Breast cancer evolution and resistance in response to HER2-targeted therapy with Christina N. Curtis, PhD, and Allison W. Kurian, MD, MSc, Stanford University, Stanford, California

Nicholas C. DeVito, MD*

Investigating the role of EMT-mediated dendritic cell tolerization in checkpoint inhibitor resistance with Brent A. Hanks, MD, PhD, Duke University, Durham, North Carolina

Michael W. Drazer, MD

Defining leukomogenic mechanisms in hereditary hematologic malignancies with Lucy A. Godley, MD, PhD, The University of Chicago Medicine, Chicago, Illinois

John R. Ferrarone, MD*

Lee Cooperman Physician-Scientist
Seeking and evaluating novel
therapeutic targets in human lung
adenocarcinomas with loss-offunction mutations in LKB1 with
Harold E. Varmus, MD, Weill Cornell
Medicine, New York, New York

Christopher J. Gibson, MD

Elucidating the connection between clonal hematopoiesis and lymphoma in humans with Benjamin L. Ebert, MD, PhD, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Boston, Massachusetts

Lillian M. Guenther, MD*

Investigation of CITED2 as a novel dependency in Ewing sarcoma with Kimberly Stegmaier, MD, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Boston, Massachusetts

Carolyn C. Jackson, MD, MPH

Genetic dissection of pediatric classic Kaposi sarcoma with Jean-Laurent Casanova, MD, PhD, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York, New York

David M. Kurtz, MD, PhD

Response prediction and personalized therapy from mathematical modeling of circulating tumor DNA in non-Hodgkin lymphoma with Arash Ash Alizadeh, MD, PhD, Stanford University School of Medicine, Stanford, California

Loretta S. Li, MD

Mechanisms of disease and resistance in CRLF2-rearranged B-cell acute lymphoblastic leukemia with David M. Weinstock, MD, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Boston, Massachusetts

David Liu, MD*

Dissecting differential therapy response in melanoma through clinical computational oncology with Eliezer M. Van Allen, MD, and Keith T. Flaherty, MD, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Boston, Massachusetts

Harshabad Singh, MBBS*

Cellular origins of Barrett's esophagus and its role in development of adenocarcinoma with Ramesh A. Shivdasani, MD, PhD, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Boston, Massachusetts

Melody Smith, MD

CD19 targeted donor T cells improve graft versus tumor activity and reduce graft versus host disease with Marcel R.M. van den Brink, MD, PhD, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York, New York

Sakiko Suzuki, MD

AON-directed alternative splicing as a novel therapy for leukemia with Michelle A. Kelliher, PhD, and Peter E. Newburger, MD, University of Massachusetts Medical School, Worcester, Massachusetts

^{*} Initial Year

Thank You to Our Donors

Your support this year enabled us to invest nearly \$18.3 million in the next generation of leading cancer researchers exploring bold new ideas.

Since our founding in 1946, in partnership with donors across the nation, Damon Runyon has invested close to \$355 million and funded nearly 3,700 young scientists.

DONOR SPOTLIGHT

The \$1 million Connie and Robert Lurie Breakthrough Challenge Fund was established to mark Damon Runyon's upcoming 75th Anniversary in 2021, and to generate new support for Damon Runyon scientists working at Stanford University, the Gladstone Institute, and the Universities of California at San Francisco, Berkeley and Santa Cruz. Our heartfelt thanks go to the Lurie Family for generations of support, beginning with Louis "Lou" Lurie, then his son Robert "Bob" Lurie and his wife Connie, who have been extremely generous to Damon Runyon, supporting 14 Damon Runyon scientists and introducing countless people to our important work.

AWARD SPONSORS

We are grateful to our individual, foundation, and corporate sponsors who have partnered with us to launch new programs or are funding one or more of our scientists. Donors can choose to fund scientists based on location, institution, research focus, or cancer type, and the award can be named in recognition of their gift. For more information, go to: www.damonrunyon.org/get-involved/sponsor.

AWARD SPONSORS ARE LISTED ON PAGES 34-36.



BOB AND CONNIE LURIE

"We hope the Challenge Fund will encourage new support by people who don't know about the work of the Foundation and inspire them to get involved. Our goal is to put Damon Runyon on the map as a critically important supporter of the best young scientists in the Bay Area."

– Connie Lurie



BRYAN C. KING, PhD, Berger Foundation Fellow, with RENEE BERGER at the Breakthroughs by the Beach event in Sag Harbor

Events & Broadway Tickets



2018 ANNUAL BREAKFAST

Our 2018 Annual Breakfast raised a recordbreaking \$2.6 million. Board Member Leon G. Cooperman, Founder, Chairman and CEO of Omega Advisors, Inc., was honored and introduced by Damon Runyon Emeritus Board member Kenneth G. Langone, Chairman and CEO of Invemed Associates, LLC.



RUNYON 5K AT YANKEE STADIUM

In April 2018, the tenth annual Damon Runyon 5K at Yankee Stadium drew nearly 2,300 participants and raised more than \$420,000. The event was presented by MetLife Foundation, with additional support from Poland Spring, RXBAR, Utz, Cabot, 24 Hour Fitness, New York Post, SiriusXM and the New York Yankees.



RAVEIS RIDE + WALK

The William Raveis Charitable Fund hosted the third annual Raveis Ride + Walk in October 2017, raising more than \$500,000 for Damon Runyon scientists. We are grateful to everyone at William Raveis for their partnership and support in raising more than \$1.5 million for Damon Runyon over three years!



BROADWAY TICKETS

Damon Runyon Broadway Tickets offers premium seats to all of Broadway's hit shows. We are grateful to the Shubert Organization, Nederlander Productions, Jujamcyn Theaters, and Disney Theatrical Productions for making this program possible. Special thanks to our Premier Circle members for their ongoing support of our efforts to end cancer. To purchase tickets or gift certificates please visit www.damonrunyon.org/broadway.

Sponsored Awards

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 sincerely thank them for their vision.

DAMON RUNYON-RACHLEFF INNOVATION AWARDS

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

Nadia's Gift Foundation Innovator

Peter J. Turnbaugh, PhD

University of California, San Francisco

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.

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CLINICAL INVESTIGATOR **CONTINUATION GRANT**

Follow-up funding for select Clinical Investigators has been provided thanks to the William K. Bowes, Jr. Foundation.

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This award program was launched in partnership with the generous support of the Sohn Conference Foundation.

Damon Runyon-Sohn Pediatric Cancer Fellows supported by the Sohn Conference Foundation

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Zhipeng Lu, PhD

Stanford University School of Medicine

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This award was established thanks to the generosity of Damon Runyon Board Members Leon G. Cooperman and Michael L. Gordon.

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DAMON RUNYON-JAKE WETCHLER AWARD FOR PEDIATRIC INNOVATION

This \$5,000 award is named in honor of Jake Wetchler, who died at age 20 after a heroic fight against two different cancers.

Amanda Balboni Iniguez, PhD

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute

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Accelerating Cancer Cures

Thank you to Eli Lilly and Company, Celgene, Genentech, Gilead, Merck, and Novartis for partnering with us to support the Damon Runyon Clinical Investigator Award and for helping foster communication and collaboration between our scientists and the biopharmaceutical industry.













Our Contributors

The Damon Runyon Cancer Research Foundation acknowledges the generosity of the many donors who supported our brilliant researchers through gifts to the Foundation from July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018. Those whose individual lifetime giving is \$100,000 or more are in **bold**, and those whose lifetime giving exceeds \$1 million are in **blue**. We are especially grateful to these extraordinarily generous and committed donors.

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Not only has this award had a tremendous impact on my career on a personal level, but it has also allowed us to do some great science and help many patients along the way. A lot of what I have been able to achieve over the past few years simply would not have been possible without your support.



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ALLISON LAU, PhD Damon Runyon Fellow, 2015-2019 Massachusetts Institute of Technology

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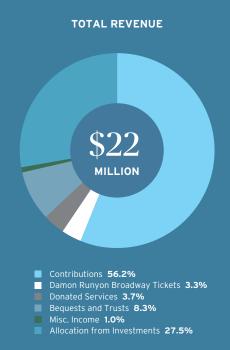
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As in previous years, the financial activities of the Damon Runyon Cancer Research Foundation were audited by RMS US LLP. Below is a snapshot of FY2018.

For our complete audited financial statements, please visit our website at **www.damonrunyon.org**



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Total Net Assets

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