THIS YEAR, WE WERE PROUD TO PLEDGE ALMOST $18.1 MILLION IN NEW AWARDS TO 60 BRAVE AND BOLD RESEARCHERS, WHO JOIN MORE THAN 130 OTHER DAMON RUNYON SCIENTISTS WORKING AT 50 INSTITUTIONS ACROSS THE NATION. OUR DONORS MAKE THEIR IMPORTANT WORK POSSIBLE.
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Director, Molecular Imaging
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New York-Presbyterian/
Weill Cornell Medicine
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*Indicates member is also a Board Member

IN MEMORIAM

DAVID M. LIVINGSTON, MD
1941 – 2021

David M. Livingston, MD, an internationally recognized expert on oncogenes and tumor suppressor genes, was instrumental in shaping Damon Runyon’s award programs. From the day he joined our Scientific Advisory Committee (now the Fellowship Award Selection Committee) in 1988, David was a tireless champion of Damon Runyon, our mission, and our scientists. He joined the Board of Directors in 1992 after serving as a scientific mentor to several of our current Board Members, including Nobel Laureate William G. Kaelin, Jr., MD, who took over as Vice Chair of Scientific Programs from David in 2016. Under David’s guidance, Damon Runyon launched six new award programs to address urgent gaps in training. He remained passionate and steadfast in his commitment to Damon Runyon’s scientific funding approach for nearly 30 years.

HENRY C. PITOT III, MD, PhD
1930 – 2021

Henry C. Pitot, MD, PhD, made critical contributions to our understanding of the processes that transform normal, healthy cells into malignant cancer cells. In his career at the McArdle Laboratory for Cancer Research at the University of Wisconsin, he mentored hundreds of scientists-in-training. He received a Damon Runyon award from 1974 to 1976 and later served on both the Damon Runyon Fellowship Award Selection Committee and the Damon Runyon Board of Directors.
In FY2021, Damon Runyon awarded nearly $18.1M to 60 newly selected, exceptional scientists.

**AWARD PROGRAMS**

**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**

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

**DAMON RUNYON QUANTITATIVE BIOLOGY FELLOWSHIP AWARD**

Supports quantitative scientists (trained in fields such as mathematics, computer science, physics, engineering, or related) to pursue research careers in computational biology.

**THREE-YEAR AWARD: $240,000**

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

**DAMON RUNYON-DALE F. FREY AWARD FOR BREAKTHROUGH SCIENTISTS**

Supports a select few Damon Runyon Fellows who have exceeded the Foundation’s highest expectations. This additional investment in these exceptional individuals catalyzes their research careers and their impact on cancer.

**TWO-YEAR AWARD: $100,000**

**DAMON RUNYON PHYSICIAN-SCIENTIST TRAINING AWARD**

Supports and encourages outstanding recent medical school graduates to pursue cancer research careers by funding a protected research training experience under the guidance of a highly qualified and gifted mentor.

**FOUR-YEAR AWARD: $460,000**

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

**DAMON RUNYON CLINICAL INVESTIGATOR AWARD**

Supports early career physician-scientists conducting patient-oriented research. This innovative program aims to increase the number of physicians who can seamlessly move between the laboratory and the patient’s bedside in search of breakthrough treatments.

**THREE-YEAR AWARD: $600,000**

plus up to $100,000 for medical school loan repayment and the possibility of an additional $400,000 extension over two years

**DAMON RUNYON-RACCHLEFF 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: $400,000**

with the possibility of an additional $400,000 extension over two years

**FELLOWSHIP AWARD COMMITTEE**

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<tr>
<th>CHAIR</th>
<th>E. Jane Albert Hubbard, PhD</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Professor, Cell Biology and Pathology</td>
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<td>Skirball Institute of Biomolecular Medicine</td>
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<td>OUTGOING CHAIR</td>
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<td>Class of ’36 Endowed Chair, Molecular and Cell Biology Professor, Immunology and Pathogenesis University of California, Berkeley</td>
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<td>David Bilder, PhD</td>
<td>Professor of Cell and Developmental Biology</td>
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<td>Department of Molecular and Cell Biology University of California, Berkeley</td>
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<td>Martin D. Burke, MD, PhD</td>
<td>May and Ving Lee Professor for Chemical Innovation Professor, Chemistry University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Assistant Dean of Research and Professor Carle Illinois College of Medicine</td>
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<td>Jayanta Chaudhuri, PhD</td>
<td>Professor, Immunology Program Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center</td>
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<td>Jason M. Crawford, PhD</td>
<td>Maxine F. Singer ’57 PhD Professor, Departments of Chemistry and Microbial Pathogenesis Director and Member of the Institute of Biomolecular Design and Discovery Yale University</td>
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<td>Howard C. Hang, PhD</td>
<td>Professor, Immunology and Microbiology and Chemistry Scripps Research</td>
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<td>Jay Hesselberth, PhD</td>
<td>Associate Professor, Biochemistry and Molecular Genetics University of Colorado School of Medicine</td>
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<td>Jonathan C. Kagan, PhD</td>
<td>Associate Professor, Pediatrics Harvard Medical School</td>
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<td>Shwachman Chair in Gastroenterology Boston Children’s Hospital</td>
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<td>Martin McMahon, PhD</td>
<td>Cumming-Presidential Chair of Cancer Biology Professor, Department of Dermatology Senior Director for Precinical Translation Huntsman Cancer Institute University of Utah School of Medicine</td>
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<td>Salt Lake City, Utah</td>
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<td>Alfonso Mondragón, PhD</td>
<td>Ethel and John Lindgren Professor Director of the Structural Biology Facility Department of Molecular Biosciences Northwestern University</td>
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<td>Kathryn A. O’Donnell, PhD</td>
<td>Associate Professor Department of Molecular Biology University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center</td>
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<td>Dallas, Texas</td>
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Alumni Professor, Genetics and Development Professor, Columbia Stem Cell Initiative Columbia University Irving Medical Center New York, New York

**Rajat Rohatgi, MD, PhD**

Associate Professor of Biochemistry and Medicine Stanford University School of Medicine Stanford, California

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Howard Hughes Medical Institute Investigator Distinguished Professor of Biochemistry Ida Smith Endowed Chair for Cancer Research University of Utah School of Medicine Salt Lake City, Utah

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**Jessica Tyler, PhD**

Professor, Pathology and Laboratory Medicine Weill Cornell Medicine New York, New York
“Receiving the Damon Runyon Fellowship has had an extraordinary impact on my research already. The award has not only bolstered my belief in the research program that I am establishing, but has also encouraged me to pursue other bold ideas in parallel—projects that are equally exciting and could be as impactful.”

– AKANKSHA THAWANI, PhD
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UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY
DAMON RUNYON FELLOWSHIP AWARD CONTINUED

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Chemical probing of mutant p53 with Kevan M. Shokat, PhD

Benjamin G. H. Guthrie, PhD
Connie and Bob Lurie Fellow
Fluoropyrimidine bioactivation and metabolism by the gut microbiome with Peter J. Turnbaugh, PhD

Fangyu Liu, PhD
Discovery of novel ligands with polypharmacology and selectivity profiles for GPCRs involved in pain with Brian K. Shoichet, PhD

Trang Nguyen, PhD
Bypassing the unresponsiveness of T cell energy and exhaustion with Arthur Weiss, MD, PhD

Tristan Wold Owens, PhD
Suzanne and Bob Wright Fellow
Investigation of histone modification and cancer therapy with David S. Pellman, MD

Cristina Puchades, PhD
Johns Hopkins University
Investigation of histone modification and cancer therapy with Richard I. Elledge, PhD

MARYLAND

Jounhs Hopkins University School of Medicine

Marco A. Catipovic, PhD*
HHMI Fellow
The role of ribosome biogenesis in recycling damaged ribosomes with Rachel Green, PhD

Linda Thuy 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

Qinheng Zheng, PhD*
And organization with Keivan M. Shokat, PhD

responsiveness of T cell energy and exhaustion with Arthur Weiss, MD, PhD

CONNECTICUT

Yale University

Elizabeth J. Culp, PhD*
The Mark Foundation for Cancer Research Fellow
Mechanisms and consequences of microbial transformation of dietary xenobiotics in cancer with Andrew W. Murray, PhD

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

Jung-Shen Tai, PhD*
From form to function: cell shape, cell ordering, and gene regulation in bacterial biofilm with Jing Yan, PhD (Yale University), and Christopher Waters, PhD (Michigan State University)

Danesh Moazed, PhD
Epigenetic regulation of cancer at single cell resolution with Steven P. Gygi, PhD

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Investigating chemical signaling between gut enterococci and intrinsic primary afferent neurons with David J. Julius, PhD

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Role of Lgr6-expressing mesenchymal cells in lung cancer initiation and progression with Carla F. Kim, PhD

Esteban A. Orellana Vinuela, PhD
Role of METTL1-WDR4 tRNA methyltransferase complex in cancer with Richard I. Gregory, PhD

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

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HHMI Fellow
Novel approaches to targeting zinc-finger domain of the transcription repressor BCL11A with Stuart H. Orkin, MD

MARGUERTT

Boston Children’s Hospital

Luadnila Andreeva, PhD
Making an inflammasome: structural and biochemical elucidation of NLPR5 inflammasome activation with Hao Wu, PhD

Parker L. Sulkowski, PhD*
HHMI Fellow
Investigation of histone secretion in cancer with William G. Kaelin, Jr., MD, Fellow

David M. Walter, PhD*
Identifying the selective mechanism behind U2AF1 mutations in lung adenocarcinoma with Matthew L. Meyerson, MD, PhD

Harvard Medical School

Amelia N. Chang, PhD
The role of activity-regulated gene expression in human brain evolution with Michael E. Greenberg, PhD

Karole N. O’Orazio, PhD*
HHMI Fellow
Epigenetic regulation through RNA decay with Danesh Moazed, PhD

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Elucidating tissue specificity of cancer with Stephen J. Elledge, PhD

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

Veronika Shoba, PhD
Phosphorylation-inducing chimeric small molecules with Amit Choudhary, PhD, and Stuart L. Schreiber, PhD

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Immune innate consequences of nuclear envelope rupture with David S. Pellman, MD

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Investigation of histone modification and cancer therapy with David C. Page, PhD

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Mechanism of protein import into peroxisomes with Tom A. Rapoport, PhD

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Dale F. and Betty Ann Frey Fellow
Signaling structure for neuromodulatory coding in the vertebrate striatum with Pascal Kaeser, MD

Rachel Segal Greenberg, PhD
HHMI Fellow
Developing functional diversity in intercircuits with James P. Allison, PhD

Connie and Bob Lurie Fellow

Elizabeth J. Culp, PhD*
Cancer Research Fellow
Identifying requirements for lung infection by opportunistic pathogens with Eric J. Ruben, MD, PhD

Mark R. Sullivan, PhD
Merck Fellow
Identifying requirements for lung infection by opportunistic pathogens with Eric J. Ruben, MD, PhD

Harvard University

Rongxin Fang, PhD
HHMI Fellow
Genome-scale imaging of enhancer-promoter interactions in cancer at single cell resolution with Xiaowei Zhuang, PhD

Grace E. Kenney, PhD
Merck Fellow
Genomics, chemical genetics and chemogenomics for drug discovery with Emily P. Balskus, PhD

Thomas R. LaBar, PhD
Elucidating the mechanisms of cellular evolution with experimental evolution with Andrew W. Murray, PhD

Jonathan G. Van Vranken, PhD
The Mark Foundation for Cancer Research Fellow
Development and application of proteome-wide thermal shift assays with Steven P. Gygi, PhD

Chuchu Zhang, PhD
Molecular dissection of area postrema and its role in nausea with Stephen D. Liberles, PhD

Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health

Madi Y. Cissé, PhD*
Merck Fellow
Integration on oncogenic signaling and nutrtient sensing by mTOR in tumors with Brendan D. Manning, PhD

Mark R. Sullivan, PhD
Merck Fellow
Identifying requirements for lung infection by opportunistic pathogens with Eric J. Ruben, MD, PhD

Harvard University

Rongxin Fang, PhD
HHMI Fellow
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Thomas R. LaBar, PhD
Elucidating the mechanisms of cellular evolution with experimental evolution with Andrew W. Murray, PhD
“In these times especially, having the financial support and intellectual freedom to pursue questions I’m passionate about is tremendous. Damon Runyon is giving young scientists like myself the opportunity to tackle fundamental questions in biology, with the hope of discoveries in these areas leading to revolutionary change down the road.”

— NICHOLAS N. JARJOUR, PHD

DAMON RUNYON FELLOW

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
OREGON
Oregon Health and Science University
Yunsik Kang, PhD
Molecular mechanisms regulating phagocytosis of neurons with Marc R. Freeman, PhD

PENNSYLVANIA
University of Pennsylvania
Balint Z. Kacsoh, PhD
Rebecca Ridley Kry Fellow
Influence of social environment on cancer progression with Shelley Berger, PhD, and Christopher J. Lengner, PhD

TEXAS
University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center
Gabriel Muhire Gihana, PhD
The Mark Foundation for Cancer Research Fellow
Cell morphological modulation of oncogenic Ras signaling with Gaudenz Danuser, PhD

UTAH
University of Utah
Lexy von Diezmann, PhD
The Mark Foundation for Cancer Research Fellow
State changes of a liquid-like compartment monitor crossover recombination with Ofir Rog, PhD, and Erik M. Jorgensen, PhD

CANADA
University of Calgary
Ysbrand Nusse, PhD
Robert Black Fellow
Defining the role of eosinophils in liver injury and repair with Paul Kubes, PhD

WASHINGTON
Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center
Ching-Ho Chang, PhD
Genetic conflicts shape protamine evolution with Harmit S. Malik, PhD

University of Washington
Junhong Choi, PhD
HHMI Fellow
Uncovering cellular development in cancer through precise genome editing with Jay A. Shendure, MD, PhD

Yunqiao Lian, PhD
The Mark Foundation for Cancer Research Fellow
At-scale dissection of developmental enhancers with single-cell reporters with Jay A. Shendure, MD, PhD

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Jean-Benoit Lalanne, PhD

UTAH
University of Utah
Lexy von Diezmann, PhD

CANADA
University of Calgary
Ysbrand Nusse, PhD

WASHINGTON
Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center
Ching-Ho Chang, PhD

University of Washington
Junhong Choi, PhD
HHMI Fellow

Washington, DC
Jean-Benoit Lalanne, PhD

Effective in 2021, Damon Runyon will no longer offer new awards through the Damon Runyon-Sohn Pediatric Cancer Fellowship Award program. We remain committed to funding pediatric cancer research through our other award programs.

CALIFORNIA
Zulekha A. Qadeer, PhD
Targeting TGFβ pathway dependencies in Group 3 medulloblastoma with William A. Weiss, MD, PhD, University of California, San Francisco

Massachusetts
S. Naomi 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

New York
Jessie A. Brown, PhD
Candy and William Raveis Fellow of the Damon Runyon-Sohn Foundation Pediatric Cancer Fellowship Award

Washington
Kiara C. Eldred, PhD
Characterizing the mechanisms of tumorigenesis in the human retina with Thomas A. Reh, PhD, University of Washington, Seattle

Jay F. Sarthy, MD, PhD
Characterization of the epigenomic landscape of diffuse midline gliomas with Steven Henikoff, PhD, and James M. Olson, MD, PhD, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, Seattle

§ Physician-Scientists

§ Physician-Scientists
“Because this is in essence a new field at the nexus of traditional cancer research and data science, it is critical to draw fearless and brilliant young computational scientists to these problems to drive the field forward.”

– AVIV REGEV, PhD

QUANTITATIVE BIOLOGY FELLOWSHIP AWARD COMMITTEE MEMBER

GENENTECH

QUANTITATIVE BIOLOGY FELLOWSHIP AWARD

CALIFORNIA
Haripriya Vaidhe Narayanan, PhD*
Developing a mechanistic multi-scale framework relating signaling and spatiotemporal dynamics in B-cell affinity maturation and lymphomagenesis with Alexander Hoffmann, PhD, and Roy Wallman, PhD, University of California, Los Angeles

Hang Xu, PhD
Investigating the dynamics of chromosomal instability in cancer with Christina N. Curtis, PhD, and Calvin Kuo, PhD, Stanford University School of Medicine, Stanford

Siting Gan, PhD
In situ single-cell dissection of the tumor-microenvironment interplay mediating brain metastasis with Joan Massagué, PhD, and Dana Pe’er, PhD, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York

Esther Wershof, PhD*
Three-dimensional spatiotemporal organization of the gut tube in early organogenesis with Dana Pe’er, PhD, and Anna-Katerina Hadjantonakis, PhD, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York

OREGON
Jeremy Copperman, PhD
Whole-cell modeling for the prediction and control of micro-environmentally regulated proliferative and migratory variability with Daniel M. Zuckerman, PhD, and Jonathan W. Yewdell, MD, PhD, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, Seattle

NEW YORK
Tin Yi Chu, PhD*
Statistical modeling of cell-cell interactions in normal intestine, inflammatory bowel disease, and colorectal cancer using single cell and spatial transcriptomics with Dana Pe’er, PhD, and Elaine V. Fuchs, PhD, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York

Collin Tokheim, PhD
Computationally identifying oncogenic substrates of the ubiquitin-proteasome system in human cancers with X. Shirley Liu, PhD, and Eric S. Fischer, PhD, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Boston

Hang Xu, PhD
Investigating the dynamics of chromosomal instability in cancer with Christina N. Curtis, PhD, and Calvin Kuo, PhD, Stanford University School of Medicine, Stanford

Shou-Wen Wang, PhD
Inferring cell fate choice from clonal and transcriptomic data, with application to hematopoiesis with Allon M. Klein, PhD, and Fernando Camargo, PhD, Harvard Medical School, Boston

Runmin Wei, PhD
Quantifying a polyclonal immune repertoire’s ability to bind influenza with Jesse D. Bloom, PhD, and Jonathan W. Yewdell, MD, PhD, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, Seattle

TEXAS
Aviv Regev, PhD
Executive Vice President and Head Research and Early Development Genentech, Inc.

Caroline Uhler, PhD
Co-Director, Eric and Wendy Schmidt Center for Computational and Mathematical Sciences Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Tal Einav, PhD
Quantifying a polyclonal immune repertoire’s ability to bind influenza with Jesse D. Bloom, PhD, and Jonathan W. Yewdell, MD, PhD, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, Seattle

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**DALE F. FREY AWARD FOR BREAKTHROUGH SCIENTISTS**

Andrew A. Bridges, PhD*
**Bacterial cell fates: the role of quorum sensing in biofilm patterning at Princeton University, Princeton**

Leeat Keren, PhD*
**CRIS Cancer Foundation Breakthrough Scientist**

Studying the tumor immune microenvironment in pancreatic cancer using multiplexed imaging at Weizmann Institute of Science, Rehovot, Israel

Nora Kory, PhD*
**Mitochondrial transporters in metabolite compartmentalization and homeostasis at Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, Boston**

Deepshika Ramanan, PhD*
**Identifying functions of regulatory T cell subsets in intestinal inflammation and colorectal cancer at Harvard Medical School, Boston**

*Initial Year

**BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS**

**Califonia**

Caitlin F. Bell, MD*
**Smooth muscle cell plasticity in the tumor microenvironment: another parallel between atherosclerosis and cancer with Nicholas J. Leeper, MD, and Irving L. Weissman, MD, Stanford University School of Medicine, Stanford**

Andrew L. Ji, MD
**Cancer cell-extrinsic and intrinsic control of tumor progression and intratumoral heterogeneity with Paul A. Khavari, MD, PhD, Stanford University School of Medicine, Stanford**

**Maryland**

Jonathan C. Dudley, MD
**Gordon Family Physician-Scientist**

Earlier detection of cancer in body cavity fluids through aneuploidy analysis after cell enrichment and partitioning with Bert Vogelstein, MD, The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Baltimore

**Massachusetts**

Edmond M. Chan, MD
**Validating a novel synthetic lethal target for microsatellite unstable cancers with Adam J. Bass, MD, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Boston**

*Being part of the Damon Runyon family gives you a new perspective on what dedication looks like and why you do what you do. It’s bigger than just sustaining your lab. It’s a personal relationship—I was supported more than just financially to persevere in breast cancer research."

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Department of Medical Oncology

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Boston, Massachusetts

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**The Ben and Catherine Ivy Foundation Physician-Scientist**

Targeting telomerase in glioblastoma with Matthew L. Meyerson, MD, PhD, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Boston

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“Damon Runyon had the long-term vision to fund me as an unusual candidate. In fact, the Foundation has been a beacon in funding transitional research scientists. It will always have a unique space in my heart.”

– LI LI, MD, PhD
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  Dr. Joshua A. Segre
  Chief and Senior Investigator
  Translational and Functional Genomics Branch
  Head, Microbial Genomics Section
  Howard Hughes Medical Institute
  Bethesda, Maryland

- **University of Texas**
  Department of Radiation Oncology
  Dr. Liron Bar-Peled
  Investigation of Hedgehog signaling in pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma progression at Yale University School of Medicine, New Haven

- **Yale University School of Medicine**
  Dr. Mandar D. Muzumdar
  Targeting endocrine-exocrine signaling in pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma progression at Yale University School of Medicine, New Haven

- **University of California, San Diego**
  Dr. Luisa F. Escobar-Hoyos
  Understanding RNA splicing in tumor-cell adaptation and anti-tumor immunity at Yale University School of Medicine, New Haven

- **University of California, San Diego**
  Dr. Sabrina L. Spencer
  Causes and consequences of rapid cancer cell adaptation to MAPK pathway inhibitors at University of Colorado, Boulder

- **University of California, San Diego**
  Dr. Eric S. Fischer
  Novel mechanisms for small molecule induced targeted degradation of RRM family proteins at Dana–Farber Cancer Institute, Boston

- **University of California, San Diego**
  Dr. Alexandre-Chloé Villani
  Deciphering the Achilles' heel of cancer immunotherapy at Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston

### INNOVATION AWARD

**CALIFORNIA**

- **Danielle Grotnah, PhD**
  Nadia's Gift Foundation

- **Uncovering structural mechanisms of mitochondrial fragmentation in cancer by cellular cryo-electron tomography at Scripps Research, La Jolla**

**ILLINOIS**

- **Joshua A. Weinstein, PhD**
  A novel DNA microarray platform for rapid discovery of immunogenic tumor neoantigens at The University of Chicago, Chicago

**MASSACHUSETTS**

- **Liron Bar-Peled, PhD**
  Identification of redox vulnerabilities in genetically defined cancers at Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston

**CONNECTICUT**

- **Luisa F. Escobar-Hoyos, PhD**
  Understanding RNA splicing in tumor-cell adaptation and anti-tumor immunity at Yale University School of Medicine, New Haven

**UTAH**

- **Gregory S. Ducker, PhD**
  Investigating allosteric mechanisms regulating DNA methyltransferase enzymes at Harvard University, Cambridge

### STAGE 2 FUNDING

**MASSACHUSETTS**

- **Eric S. Fischer, PhD**
  Novel mechanisms for small molecule induced targeted degradation of RRM family proteins at Dana–Farber Cancer Institute, Boston

**NEW YORK**

- **Arnold S. Han, MD, PhD**
  Precision T cell receptor-based cancer therapies at Columbia University, New York

**TEXAS**

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

*Initial Year*
THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS

Your support this year enabled us to invest over $18 million in the next generation of leading scientists tackling the challenges of cancer research with bold new ideas and innovative technology. Since our founding in 1946, in partnership with donors across the nation, Damon Runyon has invested over $412 million and funded nearly 3,900 young scientists.

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We are grateful to our individual 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, visit: damonrunyon.org/get-involved/sponsor.

Award sponsors are listed on pages 28–30.

DAMON RUNYON 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. This year we would like to extend special thanks to our Premier Circle members for their ongoing support of our efforts to end cancer. We rely on the proceeds from Damon Runyon Broadway Tickets to fund our brilliant scientists, and our donors’ loyalty was crucial as we waited for Broadway’s reopening.

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT DAMON RUNYON BROADWAY TICKETS AND PURCHASE TICKETS AND GIFT CERTIFICATES ONLINE, PLEASE VISIT DAMONRUNYON.ORG/BROADWAY.

2021 EVENTS

ANNUAL BREAKFAST

Damon Runyon was thrilled to once again hold its Annual Breakfast at Cipriani 42nd Street in New York on October 20. The event raised over $1 million to support our scientists and honored Kenneth C. Frazier, Executive Chairman of the Board, Merck & Co., Inc., and William G. Kaelin, Jr., MD, 2019 Nobel Laureate and Damon Runyon Board Member, for their dedication to the discovery and development of new cancer treatments.

RAVEIS RIDE + WALK / DAMON RUNYON 5K

The William Raveis Charitable Fund hosted the seventh annual Raveis Ride + Walk on October 17 in Norwalk, Connecticut, where Damon Runyon scientists joined hundreds of participants biking or walking to raise money for cancer research. We are grateful to everyone at William Raveis for their partnership and support in raising nearly $3 million since 2015.

After transitioning to a virtual event for the second year in a row, we look forward to welcoming everyone back to Yankee Stadium for the Runyon 5K in 2022!

SCIENTIST NETWORKING HAPPY HOURS

This summer and fall, we enjoyed getting together with Damon Runyon Awardees and Committee Members at networking events on both coasts. In July, scientists based in New York City gathered in Manhattan to catch up and discuss each other’s projects, and Bay Area researchers (including 2021 Nobel Laureate and former Fellowship Award Committee Member David Julius, PhD) met at a San Francisco restaurant in November. Because our scientists often cite the Damon Runyon community as one of the best parts of the award, we are so glad we can gather in person again.

BAY AREA CULTIVATION EVENT

On November 4, Damon Runyon scientists and supporters gathered in the courtyard of the Los Altos History Museum in Northern California for an evening with 2019 Nobel Laureate and Damon Runyon Board Member William G. Kaelin, Jr., MD, who led a thought-provoking conversation with three Damon Runyon scientists representing different Bay Area institutions and award programs: Katy Ong, PhD, current Fellow at the University of California, Berkeley, Jean Y. Tang, MD, PhD, former Clinical Investigator at Stanford University, and Peter J. Turnbaugh, PhD, former Nadia’s Gift Foundation Innovator at the University of California, San Francisco.
SPONSORED AWARDS

We thank our individual, foundation, and corporate sponsors who have partnered with us to launch or provide continuing support for specific award programs.

DAMON RUNYON-RACHLEFF INNOVATION AWARD

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

NADIA’S GIFTFUNDATION INNOVATOR

Danielle Grotjahn, PhD
Scripps Research

CLINICAL INVESTIGATOR AWARDS

This award was initially established in partnership with Eli Lilly and Company, a collaboration with Damon Runyon and leading biopharmaceutical companies.

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INNOVATION AWARD

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DAMON RUNYON-DALE F. FREY AWARD FOR BREAKTHROUGH SCIENTISTS
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This award program was launched in partnership with the generous support of the Sohn Conference Foundation.

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DAMON RUNYON PHYSICIAN-SCIENTIST TRAINING AWARDS
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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.
Dian Yang, PhD
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“Cancer is a complex and dynamic foe. Damon Runyon brings to this urgent fight the many renowned senior scientists who select and mentor the next generation of Damon Runyon scientists, a wide circle of generous supporters who fund Damon Runyon’s award programs, and, most importantly, the brilliant young scientists themselves.”

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“Our ability to make future advances in understanding and treatment of cancer depends heavily on the intellectual creativity and firepower of the people doing the research.”

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Accelerating Cancer Cures is supported by leading biopharmaceutical companies that are committed to finding new cures for cancer. Thank you to Genentech, Merck, AbbVie, Amgen, and Novartis for partnering with us to support the Damon Runyon Clinical Investigator Award. In conjunction with this initiative, the Accelerating Cancer Cures Research Symposium brings together our Clinical Investigators with industry leaders to foster communication and collaboration helping speed progress against cancer.

“It takes decades of continued effort and collaboration to translate early findings into useful compounds. But this undaunted hope is what makes Damon Runyon such a special organization—one that believes in the power of science at its earliest moments, when there is merely a glimmer of promise for the future. Together, as industry and academia, government, and nonprofits, we can ensure that these breakthroughs come to fruition.”

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FISCAL YEAR 2021

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 FY2021.

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

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