

2021:
A YEAR
IN REVIEW



DAMON RUNYON
CANCER RESEARCH
FOUNDATION

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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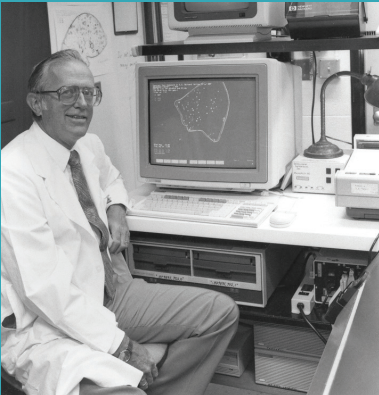
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IN MEMORIAM



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.

AWARD PROGRAMS

In FY2021, Damon Runyon awarded nearly **\$18.1M** to 60 newly selected, exceptional scientists.

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 catapults 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-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: \$400,000

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

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Alumni Professor, Genetics
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Director, Columbia Stem Cell
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Stanford University School
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Distinguished Professor
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Investigator, Abramson Family
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Member, Abramson Cancer
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Co-Leader, Hematologic
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Professor and Chair, Cell and
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University of Pennsylvania
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Aaron F. Straight, PhD
Professor and Chair,
Biochemistry
Stanford University School
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STANFORD, CALIFORNIA

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**
DAMON RUNYON FELLOW
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY

DAMON RUNYON

FELLOWSHIP AWARD

CALIFORNIA

California Institute of Technology

Zibo Chen, PhD
Combinatorial signal classification with a protein-based synthetic neural network with Michael B. Elowitz, PhD

Bo Gu, PhD*
Fraternal Order of Eagles Fellow
Understanding and engineering combinatorial gene regulation in mammalian cells with Michael B. Elowitz, PhD

Georgia R. Squyres, PhD*
Spatiotemporal regulation of eDNA release in *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* biofilms with Dianne K. Newman, PhD

Ludwig Institute for Cancer Research

Julia Su Zhou Li, PhD
Spatial regulation of the inheritance of genomic abnormalities in cancer cells with Don W. Cleveland, PhD

Salk Institute for Biological Studies

Hokyung K. Chung, PhD
Next generation adoptive cell therapy: SMARTER T cells for enhanced and durable anti-tumor immunity with Susan M. Kaech, PhD

Thomas H. Mann, PhD
Calcium signaling and the molecular clock of T cell exhaustion with Susan M. Kaech, PhD

Scripps Research

Haoxin Li, PhD
The Mark Foundation for Cancer Research Fellow
Cysteine-modification screening to identify functional and druggable sites in cancer dependencies with Benjamin F. Cravatt, PhD

Yunxiao Zhang, PhD
Merck Fellow
Sensory innervation of the pancreas with Ardem Patapoutian, PhD

Stanford University

Yiming Chen, PhD
Optical interrogation of neuropeptide and peptide hormones with Karl Deisseroth, MD, PhD

Lauren E. Cote, PhD*
Constructing one continuous digestive tract, cell by cell with Jessica L. Feldman, PhD

Shuo Han, PhD
Fayez Sarofim Fellow
Spatiotemporally precise manipulation of Hedgehog signaling for tissue regeneration and repair with Philip A. Beachy, PhD

Christina L. Hueschen, PhD
Molecular basis and regulation of apicomplexan parasite motility with Alex Dunn, PhD

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

Seungsoo Kim, PhD*
HHMI Fellow
Transcription factor cooperation shaping TWIST1 multifunctionality across craniofacial development and cancer metastasis with Joanna K. Wysocka, PhD

Christopher P. Lapointe, PhD
Regulatory roles of the 3’ untranslated region in human translation with Joseph D. Puglisi, PhD

Conor J. McClune, PhD*
HHMI Fellow
Resolving plant biosynthesis of therapeutic compounds by systematic perturbation, measurement, and metabolic phenotyping at single-cell scale with Elizabeth S. Sattely, PhD, and Polly M. Fordyce, PhD

Colleen N. McLaughlin, PhD
HHMI Fellow
Cell surface mechanisms of neural circuit assembly with Liqun Luo, PhD

Minhee Park, PhD*
Structural basis of epigenetic memory at the single cell level with Alistair N. Boettiger, PhD, and Howard Y. Chang, MD, PhD

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

Tess C. Branon, PhD
Robert Black Fellow
Elucidating mechanisms of bidirectional host-microbiota communication with Gregory M. Barton, PhD

Steven W.M. Crossley, PhD
AGBT-Elaine R. Mardis Fellowship in Cancer Genomics
Mapping targets for cancer therapeutics via methionine-selective warheads with Christopher J. Chang, PhD, and Daniel K. Nomura, PhD

Allison L. Didychuk, PhD
The Rhee Family Fellow
Viral mimics of host transcription factors in oncogenic herpesviruses with Britt A. Glaunsinger, PhD

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Mechanistic dissection of Tec kinases in immune-cell signaling with John Kuriyan, PhD

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

Katy Ong, PhD
The Mark Foundation for Cancer Research Fellow
Long-range tumor-host signaling mechanisms driving paraneoplastic syndromes with David Bilder, PhD

Jiao Sima, PhD
HHMI Fellow
Cellular mechanisms linking sleep disturbance and cancer development with Yang Dan, PhD

Akanksha Thawani, PhD*
Merck Fellow
Targeted genetic supplementation by harnessing transposable elements with Eva Nogales, PhD, and Kathleen Collins, PhD

University of California, Los Angeles

Yajing Gao, PhD*
The Mark Foundation for Cancer Research Fellow
Characterize the role of non-vesicular cholesterol transport in CD8+ T cell function with Peter Tontonoz, MD, PhD

Christina M. Termini, PhD
Proteoglycan remodeling of the bone marrow niche regulates hematopoietic stem cell regeneration with John P. Chute, MD, and Karen M. Lyons, PhD

University of California, San Diego

Janice M. Reimer, PhD
Merck Fellow
Regulation of dynein by Lis1 with Andres E. Leschziner, PhD

Digvijay Singh, PhD
Cryo-electron tomography of phase-separated compartments and nuclear pore complexes involved in gene regulation with Elizabeth Villa, PhD

DAMON RUNYON FELLOWSHIP AWARD CONTINUED

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

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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 anergy and exhaustion
with Arthur Weiss, MD, PhD

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Molecular mechanisms of
heat shock transcription
factor 1 in cancer with
David A. Agard, PhD

Cristina Puchades, PhD
Deciphering the molecular basis
for modulation of TMEM16A
activity with Yifan Cheng, PhD,
and Lily Jan, PhD

Sukrit Silas, PhD
Discovery and characterization
of virally-encoded proteins of
unknown function with Joseph
Bondy-Denomy, PhD, and
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Synthetic adhesion molecules:
redirecting cell infiltration
and organization with
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between gut enteroendocrine
cells and intrinsic primary
afferent neurons with
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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*
Connie and Bob Lurie Fellow
Drugging K-Ras(G12D) with
targeted covalent inhibitors
with Kevan M. Shokat, PhD

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Mechanisms and consequences
of microbial transformation
of dietary xenobiotics in
cancer risk with Andrew L.
Goodman, 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)

MARYLAND

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The role of ribosome biogenesis
in recycling damaged ribosomes
with Rachel Green, PhD

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Warakorn Pete Kulalert, PhD
Characterization of the
microbiota-mediated cutaneous
neuroimmune interface and
its impacts on tumorigenesis
and cancer therapy with
Yasmine Belkaid, PhD

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Liudmila Andreeva, PhD
Making an inflammasome:
structural and biochemical
elucidation of NLRP3
inflammasome activation
with Hao Wu, PhD

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

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Vinueza, 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

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

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Elucidating tissue specificity
of cancer with Stephen J.
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Predicting the interactions
of T cell receptors with
peptide-MHC complexes
with Nir Hacohen, PhD

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Phosphorylation-inducing
chimeric small molecules
with Amit Choudhary, PhD,
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Innate immune consequences
of nuclear envelope rupture
with David S. Pellman, MD

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Investigation of histone
secretion in cancer with
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Identifying the selective
mechanism behind
U2AF1 mutations in lung
adenocarcinoma with
Matthew L. Meyerson, MD, PhD

Harvard Medical School

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

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Epigenetic regulation
through RNA decay with
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Activity-dependent changes in
RNA stability as a mechanism
for synaptic plasticity with
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Mechanism of protein
import into peroxisomes
with Tom A. Rapoport, PhD

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Signaling structure for
neuromodulatory coding
in the vertebrate striatum
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Developing functional diversity
in interoceptive circuits
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Unraveling the role of molecular
capacitors that obscure cryptic
genetic variants in fish
with Clifford J. Tabin, PhD

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

Nagarajan Sandy
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Philip O’Bryan Montgomery,
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Signal integration by bHLH
circuits to enable cell fate
decisions with Galit Lahav, PhD,
and Sean G. Megason, PhD

Nikit B. Patel, PhD
Dissecting the transcriptional
logic underlying neural
tube development with
Allon Klein, 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 nutrient 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. Rubin, 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
New enzymatic routes
towards nitrogen-nitrogen
bond formation in diverse
cytotoxic natural products
with Emily P. Balskus, PhD

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

DAMON RUNYON FELLOWSHIP AWARD CONTINUED

Massachusetts General Hospital

Stefan Niekamp, PhD*
Dennis and Marsha Dammerman Fellow
Understanding the switch: competition between chromatin remodeler and polycomb repressive complexes with Robert E. Kingston, PhD

Jingyi Wu, PhD
Epigenetic clonal evolution in gliomas with Bradley E. Bernstein, MD, PhD

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Jon McGinn, PhD
Dissecting the genetic networks underlying host subversion during Rickettsia infection with Rebecca Lamason, PhD, and Michael T. Laub, PhD

Sharanya Sivanand, PhD
Understanding metabolic heterogeneity in primary and metastatic tumors with Matthew G. Vander Heiden, MD, PhD

Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research

Elizabeth A. Costa, PhD
Robert Black Fellow
Exploring the cell adhesion landscape through host-pathogen interactions with Sebastian Lourido, PhD

Daniel H. Lin, PhD
The influence of RNA and protein conformation on target-directed miRNA degradation with David P. Bartel, PhD

Jingchuan Luo, PhD
HHMI Fellow
Deciphering roles of nuclear-mitochondrial communication in cellular homeostasis with Jonathan S. Weissman, PhD

Alexandra Nguyen, PhD
Defining the cell type specific cell division requirements in acute myeloid leukemias with Iain M. Cheeseman, PhD

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

MINNESOTA

University of Minnesota

Nicholas N. Jarjour, PhD*
Antigen-independent proliferation of tissue-resident memory T cells and therapeutic applications with Stephen C. Jameson, PhD

NEW JERSEY

Princeton University

Caroline Bartman, PhD
The Mark Foundation for Cancer Research Fellow
Systems analysis of *in vivo* tumor and stromal cell metabolism in pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma with Joshua Rabinowitz, MD, PhD

Courtney Ellison, PhD
The role of type IV pili in *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* biofilm formation with Joshua W. Shaevitz, PhD, and Zemer Gitai, PhD

Nir Hananya, PhD*
Robert Black Fellow
The roles of histone ADP-ribosylation in DNA damage response with Tom W. Muir, PhD

Aaron E. Lin, PhD*
Contact tracing within an organism: developing a genome editing platform to record the history of virus-infected and transformed cells with Alexander Ploss, PhD, and Brittany Adamson, PhD

NEW YORK

Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center

Kaixian Liu, PhD
The studies of double-strand break proteins in germline genome transmission with Scott N. Keeney, PhD, and Shixin Liu, PhD

Ryan H. Moy, MD, PhD[§]
Robert Black Fellow
Identifying the key drivers and mechanisms underlying metastatic liver colonization in colorectal cancer with Sohail F. Tavazoie, MD, PhD

Jose Reyes, PhD
HHMI Fellow
Dynamics and impact of genetic and non-genetic diversification driven by loss of p53 with Scott W. Lowe, PhD, and Dana Pe'er, PhD

New York University

Sophia C. Tintori, PhD
Mechanisms of radiation tolerance in *Caenorhabditis* from Chernobyl with Matthew V. Rockman, PhD

New York University Grossman School of Medicine

Nicholas M. Adams, PhD
Marion Abbe Fellow
Elucidating how pDC genome organization regulates IFN production in cancer with Boris Reizis, PhD

The Rockefeller University

Alain R. Bonny, PhD*
Kenneth C. Frazier Fellow
The spatiotemporal coordination between inflammation and tissue repair with Elaine V. Fuchs, PhD

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

Gregory P. Donaldson, PhD
Robert Black Fellow
Cross-talk between B lymphocytes and bacteria in the maintenance of a non-inflammatory mucosal microbiome with Daniel Mucida, PhD

Catherine A. Freije, PhD*
Berger Foundation Fellow
Investigating the role of fitness and host pressure in shaping hepatitis B diversity with Charles M. Rice, PhD

Anita Gola, PhD
National Mah Jongg League Fellow
A spatially patterned stem cell and immune cell barrier at the skin surface with Elaine V. Fuchs, PhD

Juhee Pae, PhD
Berger Foundation Fellow
Mechanisms of germinal center B Cell proliferation with Gabriel D. Vitorica, PhD

Gokhan Unlu, PhD*
Targeting cancer nutrient limitations using dietary interventions with Kivanç Birsoy, PhD

John C. Zinder, PhD
Lorraine W. Egan Fellow
Structure and biochemistry of human shelterin and associated factors with Titia de Lange, PhD

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

“In these times especially, having the financial support and intellectual freedom to pursue the 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

Romain L. Riscal, PhD
Exploiting cholesterol
metabolism as a liability
in clear cell Renal Cell
Carcinoma (ccRCC) with
M. Celeste Simon, PhD

University of Pittsburgh

**Abigail E. Overacre-
Delgoffe, PhD**
Microbiome control of the
tumor microenvironment:
harnessing immunosuppression
and exhaustion with
Timothy W. Hand, PhD, and
Olivera J. Finn, 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 Ofer Rog, PhD, and
Erik M. Jorgensen, PhD

WASHINGTON

Fred Hutchinson Cancer
Research Center

Ching-Ho Chang, PhD*
Genetic conflicts shape
protamine evolution
with Harmit S. Malik, PhD

Edie I. Crosse, PhD*
Illini 4000 Fellow
Determining the role of
stem cell heterogeneity in
clonal evolution of
hematologic malignancy
with Lev Silberstein, MD, PhD,
and Irwin D. Bernstein, MD

Tyler Starr, PhD
HHMI Fellow
The sequence-function
landscape of antibody and
virus evolution with Jesse D.
Bloom, PhD, and Frederick
Matsen, PhD

University of Washington

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

Jean-Benoît Lalanne, PhD*
At-scale dissection of
developmental enhancers
with single-cell reporters
with Jay A. Shendure, MD, 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

**Initial Year*
\$ Physician-Scientists

PEDIATRIC CANCER
FELLOWSHIP AWARD

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 TGFb pathway
dependencies in Group 3
medulloblastoma with William
A. Weiss, MD, PhD, University
of California, San Francisco

Peng Wu, MD, PhD\$
Understanding and modulating
aberrant differentiation in
hepatoblastoma with Roeland
Nusse, PhD, Stanford University
School of Medicine, Stanford

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

Maxim Pimkin, MD, PhD\$
Divergent core transcriptional
circuitries highlight context-
specific vulnerabilities in AML
with Stuart H. Orkin, MD, 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**
Master regulators of drug
resistance in relapsed acute
lymphoblastic leukemia with
Adolfo A. Ferrando, MD, PhD,
Columbia University, New York

TENNESSEE

Katherine E. Gadek, PhD
Defining endothelial
progenitor cell pliancy in
rhabdomyosarcoma
with Mark E. Hatley, MD, PhD,
and Stacey K. Ogden, PhD,
St. Jude Children's Research
Hospital, Memphis

Anand G. Patel, MD, PhD\$
Targeting the developmental
architecture of
rhabdomyosarcoma
with Michael A. Dyer, PhD,
St. Jude Children's Research
Hospital, Memphis

WASHINGTON

Kiara C. Eldred, PhD
Dissecting 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

“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

DAMON RUNYON

QUANTITATIVE BIOLOGY FELLOWSHIP AWARD COMMITTEE

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Institute Member
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and Harvard
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Human Cancer Genetics
Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
Professor of Pediatrics
Harvard Medical School
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS

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Chair, Systems Biology
Herbert Irving Comprehensive
Cancer Center
Columbia University
NEW YORK, NEW YORK

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Assistant Professor, Genetics
and Computer Science
Stanford University
STANFORD, CALIFORNIA

X. Shirley Liu, PhD
Professor of Biostatistics and
Computational Biology
Department of Data Science
Center for Functional Cancer
Epigenetics
Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
and Harvard University
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Lior Pachter, PhD
Bren Professor of
Computational Biology
and Computing and
Mathematical Sciences
California Institute of
Technology
PASADENA, CALIFORNIA

Dana Pe’er, PhD
Chair, Computational and
Systems Biology Program
Scientific Director, Metastasis
and Tumor Ecosystems Center
Sloan Kettering Institute
Memorial Sloan Kettering
Cancer Center
NEW YORK, NEW YORK

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Executive Vice President
and Head
Research and Early
Development
Genentech, Inc.
SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

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Broad Institute of MIT
and Harvard
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Associate Professor
Department of Electrical
Engineering and Computer
Science
Institute for Data, Systems,
and Society
Massachusetts Institute of
Technology
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS

DAMON RUNYON

QUANTITATIVE BIOLOGY FELLOWSHIP AWARD

CALIFORNIA

Haripriya Vaidehi 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 Wollman, 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

MASSACHUSETTS

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

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

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

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 Joe W. Gray, PhD,
Oregon Health & Science
University, Portland

TEXAS

Runmin Wei, PhD
Integrating single cell genomic
and spatial information to
delineate tumor heterogeneity
and microenvironment
interactions in inflammatory
breast cancer with Nicholas E.
Navin, PhD, and Ken Chen,
PhD, The University of Texas
MD Anderson Cancer Center,
Houston

VERMONT

Vitor Mori, PhD
EBUS-TBNI of cisplatin
optimization in heterogeneous
lung tumors with Jason H.T.
Bates, PhD, DSc, and C.
Matthew Kinsey, MD, University
of Vermont, Burlington

WASHINGTON

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

**Initial Year*

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

Kara L. McKinley, PhD*

Physiology and pathology of the uterus at Harvard University, Cambridge

Deepshika Ramanan, PhD*

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

**Initial Year*

“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.”

– VASSILIKI KARANTZA, MD, PhD

FORMER DAMON RUNYON CLINICAL INVESTIGATOR
MERCK



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Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and Harvard Medical School
Howard Hughes Medical Institute Investigator
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Barbara J. Bonner Chair in Lung Cancer Research
Director, James Thoracic Center
Professor, Division of Medical Oncology
Comprehensive Cancer Center
The Ohio State University
COLUMBUS, OHIO

Lucy A. Godley, MD, PhD

Co-Director, Center for Clinical Cancer Genetics
Hospira Foundation Professor of Medicine and Human Genetics
Section of Hematology and Oncology
The University of Chicago
Medicine
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Peter S. Nelson, MD

Member, Divisions of Human Biology, Clinical Research, and Public Health Sciences
Endowed Chair for Prostate Cancer Research
Fred Hutchison Cancer Research Center
Professor, Division of Medical Oncology
Adjunct Professor, Genome Sciences and Pathology
University of Washington
School of Medicine
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

David R. Piwnica-Worms, MD, PhD

Professor and Chair, Cancer Systems Imaging
Executive Director, Quantitative Imaging Analysis Core
Gerald Dewey Dodd, Jr., Endowed Distinguished Chair in Diagnostic Imaging
Division of Diagnostic Imaging
The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center
HOUSTON, TEXAS

Kornelia Polyak, MD, PhD

Professor of Medicine
Department of Medical Oncology
Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and Harvard Medical School
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Cassian Yee, MD

Professor, Melanoma Medical Oncology
Professor, Immunology
Division of Cancer Medicine
Director, Department of Solid Tumor Cell Therapy
Center for Cancer Immunology Research
The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center
HOUSTON, TEXAS

PHYSICIAN-SCIENTIST TRAINING AWARD

CALIFORNIA

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

**Elisa A. Aquilanti, MD
The Ben and Catherine Ivy Foundation Physician-Scientist**

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

Edmond M. Chan, MD

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

Gabriel K. Griffin, MD
Enhancing cancer immunotherapy through epigenetic modulation of the repetitive genome with Bradley E. Bernstein, MD, PhD, and Arlene H. Sharpe, MD, PhD, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston

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

Albert E. Kim, MD*
William G. Kaelin, Jr., MD, Physician-Scientist
Using liquid biopsy and MRI to non-invasively identify therapeutic targets for brain metastases with Priscilla K. Brastianos, MD, and Elizabeth R. Gerstner, MD, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston

Peter Geon Kim, MD*
Elucidating the mechanisms of inflammation in clonal hematopoiesis with Benjamin L. Ebert, MD, PhD, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Boston

Harshabad Singh, MBBS
Epigenetic evolution of pancreatic adenocarcinoma during combination chemotherapy with Brian M. Wolpin, MD, MPH, and Andrew J. Aguirre, MD, PhD, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Boston

NEW YORK

Andrew J. Dunbar, MD
William Raveis Charitable Fund Physician-Scientist
Interrogating functional contribution of JAK2V617F in the maintenance of myeloproliferative neoplasms with Ross L. Levine, MD, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York

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

Dennis J. Hsu, MD
Metabolic determinants of codon usage bias in colorectal cancer with Sohail F. Tavazoie, MD, PhD, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center/The Rockefeller University, New York

Rabi Upadhyay, MD
Determining the distal effects of gut microbiota on the lung tumor microenvironment, cancer progression, and checkpoint blockade efficacy with Dan R. Littman, MD, PhD, New York University Grossman School of Medicine, New York

NORTH CAROLINA

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

OHIO

Jonathan E. Shoag, MD
Harnessing clinical data to identify new prostate cancer therapeutics with Christopher E. Barbieri, MD, PhD, University Hospitals Cleveland Medical Center, Cleveland

PENNSYLVANIA

Max M. Wattenberg, MD*
Epigenetic reprogramming of dendritic cells for cancer immunotherapy with Gregory L. Beatty, MD, PhD, and Robert H. Vonderheide, MD, PhD, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia

TEXAS

Natalie Vokes, MD
The Mark Foundation for Cancer Research Physician-Scientist
Dissecting tumor intrinsic and immune drivers of resistance to therapy in non-small cell lung cancer with John V. Heymach, MD, PhD, The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston

**Initial Year*

CLINICAL INVESTIGATOR AWARD COMMITTEE

CHAIR

Charles L. Sawyers, MD
Marie-Josée and Henry R. Kravis Chair Human Oncology and Pathogenesis Program Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center
Howard Hughes Medical Institute Investigator
NEW YORK, NEW YORK

Karla V. Ballman, PhD
Chief, Division of Biostatistics and Epidemiology
Professor, Population Health Sciences
Weill Cornell Medicine
NEW YORK, NEW YORK

Laura Q.M. Chow, MD, FRCPC
Professor and Associate Chair of Education
Department of Oncology
Director of Lung, Head and Neck, and Clinical Immunotherapy Programs
Associate Director of Clinical Research
LIVESTRONG Cancer Institutes
The University of Texas at Austin Dell Medical School
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Howard Hughes Medical Institute Investigator
Professor, Children's Research Institute
Chief, Division of Pediatric Genetics and Metabolism
Director, Genetic and Metabolic Disease Program
Sowell Family Scholar in Medical Research
Joel B. Steinberg, MD
Distinguished Chair in Pediatrics
University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center
DALLAS, TEXAS

Howard A. Fine, MD
Director, Brain Tumor Center
Associate Director, Translational Research
Sandra and Edward Meyer Cancer Center
Louis and Gertrude Feil Professor of Medicine
Chief, Division of Neuro-Oncology
New York-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medicine
NEW YORK, NEW YORK

Daniel F. Hayes, MD, FACP, FASCO
Stuart B. Padnos Professor of Breast Cancer Research
Professor of Internal Medicine
Clinical Director, Breast Oncology Program
University of Michigan Rogel Cancer Center
ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN

Andrew L. Kung, MD, PhD
Professor and Chair, Pediatrics
Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center
NEW YORK, NEW YORK

Dan Laheru, MD
Professor of Oncology
Ian T. MacMillan Professorship in Clinical Pancreatic Cancer Research
The Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center
The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

Daniel C. Link, MD
Professor of Medicine
Department of Pathology and Immunology
Division of Oncology
Washington University School of Medicine
ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

Ramon E. Parsons, MD, PhD
Director, Tisch Cancer Institute
Ward-Coleman Chair in Cancer Research
Director, Mount Sinai Cancer and Mount Sinai Health System
Professor and Chair, Oncological Sciences
Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai
NEW YORK, NEW YORK

Jedd D. Wolchok, MD, PhD
Lloyd J. Old/Virginia and Daniel K. Ludwig Chair in Clinical Investigation
Chief, Immuno-Oncology Service
Director, Parker Institute for Cancer Immunotherapy
Associate Director, Ludwig Center for Cancer Immunotherapy
Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center
NEW YORK, NEW YORK

Kwok-Kin Wong, MD, PhD
Anne Murnick Cogan and David H. Cogan Professor of Oncology
Department of Medicine
Director, Division of Hematology and Medical Oncology
Laura and Isaac Perlmutter Cancer Center
NYU Langone Health
NEW YORK, NEW YORK

Sandra L. Wong, MD, MS
Chair and William N. and Bessie Allyn Professor of Surgery
Senior Vice President, Surgical Service Line
Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center
The Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth
LEBANON, NEW HAMPSHIRE

Founding Member

Richard J. O'Reilly, MD
Claire L. Tow Chair in Pediatric Oncology Research
Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center
NEW YORK, NEW YORK

CLINICAL INVESTIGATOR AWARD

CALIFORNIA

Anusha Kalbasi, MD
IL13Ra2 Chimeric Antigen Receptor (CAR) T cells for metastatic melanoma with Antoni Ribas, MD, PhD, and Christine Brown, PhD, University of California, Los Angeles

David Y. Oh, MD, PhD*
Co-receptors modulating anti-tumor activity of human cytotoxic CD4+ effector cells with Lawrence Fong, MD, University of California, San Francisco

Kavita Y. Sarin, MD, PhD
D.G. “Mitch” Mitchell
Clinical Investigator
Genetic contributions and novel therapies for individuals with frequent basal cell cancer with Jean Y. Tang, MD, PhD, and Anthony E. Oro, MD, PhD, Stanford University, Stanford

MASSACHUSETTS

Birgit Knoechel, MD, PhD
Mechanisms of CD8+ T-cell dysfunction and its therapeutic targeting in T-ALL with Kimberly Stegmaier, MD, and Catherine J. Wu, MD, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Boston

Matthew G. Oser, MD, PhD
William Raveis Charitable Fund Clinical Investigator
Targeting neuroendocrine differentiation as a novel therapeutic strategy for small cell lung cancer with William G. Kaelin, Jr., MD, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Boston

MICHIGAN

Philip L. Palmbos, MD, PhD*
Targeting TRIM29 to reverse immune checkpoint inhibitor resistance in bladder cancer with Joshi J. Alumkal, MD, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

Daniel R. Wahl, MD, PhD*
Targeting metabolic interactions in the glioblastoma microenvironment to overcome therapy resistance with Theodore S. Lawrence, MD, PhD, and Maria G. Castro, PhD, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

MISSOURI

Kelly L. Bolton, MD, PhD*
The use of enasidenib in IDH2-mutated clonal cytopenia of undetermined significance with Matthew J. Walter, MD, and Eytan M. Stein, MD, Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis

NEW YORK

Karuna Ganesh, MD, PhD
Leveraging patient-derived organoid models to define the molecular determinants of metastatic regeneration with Joan Massagué, PhD, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York

NORTH CAROLINA

Yvonne M. Mowery, MD, PhD
Evaluating and targeting pathways of treatment resistance in head and neck squamous cell carcinoma with David G. Kirsch, MD, PhD, Duke University, Durham

PENNSYLVANIA

Alexander C. Huang, MD*
Damon Runyon-Doris Duke Clinical Investigator
Shared antigen and neoantigen-specific T cells in checkpoint blockade efficacy and toxicity with Gerald P. Linette, MD, PhD, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia

Jennifer M. Kalish, MD, PhD
Epigenetic and genetic mechanisms of cancer in Beckwith-Wiedemann Syndrome with Marisa S. Bartolomei, PhD, and Garrett A. Brodeur, MD, Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia, Philadelphia

TEXAS

Todd A. Aguilera, MD, PhD
Immunologic responses to short course radiotherapy in rectal adenocarcinoma and the impact of CD40 agonist immunotherapy with Robert D. Timmerman, MD, and Yang-Xin Fu, MD, PhD, University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, Dallas

David G. McFadden, MD, PhD
Identifying metabolic vulnerabilities in Hürthle cell carcinoma with Steven L. McKnight, PhD, and Ralph J. DeBerardinis, MD, PhD, University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, Dallas

Sangeetha M. Reddy, MD*
Multi-modality approach to enhancing antigen presentation in breast cancers with Zhijian James Chen, PhD, and Hans Hammers, MD, PhD, University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, Dallas

**Initial Year*

“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**
FORMER DAMON RUNYON CLINICAL INVESTIGATOR
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Collin M. Blakely, MD, PhD*
Mechanisms of incomplete response and primary resistance to the 3rd generation EGFR inhibitor osimertinib in lung cancer with Trever G. Bivona, MD, PhD, University of California, San Francisco

Catherine C. Smith, MD*
Richard Lumsden Foundation Clinical Investigator
RNA Polymerase II as therapeutic target in AML with RAS activation with Neil P. Shah, MD, PhD, and Kevin M. Shannon, MD, University of California, San Francisco

NEW YORK

Vinod P. Balachandran, MD
1440 Foundation Clinical Investigator
Recombinant interleukin-33 immunotherapy for pancreatic cancer with Steven D. Leach, MD, and Jedd D. Wolchok, MD, PhD, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York

Matthew D. Hellmann, MD*
Refining disease states in response to PD-1 blockade to inform rational immunotherapeutics in NSCLC with Charles M. Rudin, MD, PhD, and Jedd D. Wolchok, MD, PhD, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York

Piro Lito, MD, PhD
Modeling responses to targeted ERK signaling inhibition at the single-cell level with Neal X. Rosen, MD, PhD, and Charles M. Rudin, MD, PhD, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York

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CALIFORNIA

Danielle Grotjahn, PhD*
Nadia's Gift Foundation
Innovator
Uncovering structural
mechanisms of mitochondrial
fragmentation in cancer
by cellular cryo-electron
tomography at Scripps
Research, La Jolla

COLORADO

Sabrina L. Spencer, PhD*
Causes and consequences of
rapid cancer cell adaptation
to MAPK pathway inhibitors
at University of Colorado,
Boulder

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Luisa F. Escobar-Hoyos, PhD*
Understanding RNA splicing
in tumor-cell adaptation and
anti-tumor immunity at Yale
University School of Medicine,
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Mandar D. Muzumdar, MD*
Targeting endocrine-exocrine
signaling in pancreatic ductal
adenocarcinoma progression
at Yale University School of
Medicine, New Haven

INNOVATION AWARD 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

Alexandra-Chloé Villani, PhD*
Deciphering the Achilles' heel
of cancer immunotherapy
at Massachusetts General
Hospital, Boston

ILLINOIS

Joshua A. Weinstein, PhD*
A novel DNA microscopy
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

Michael E. Birnbaum, PhD
Decoding and reprogramming
tumor-infiltrating T cells by
pMHC-targeted lentiviruses
at Massachusetts Institute of
Technology, Cambridge

Brian B. Liao, PhD
Investigating allosteric
mechanisms regulating DNA
methyltransferase enzymes
at Harvard University,
Cambridge

NEW YORK

Michael E. Pacold, MD, PhD
Tracing molecular oxygen in
pancreatic cancer at NYU
Langone Health, New York

Elli Papaemmanuil, PhD
Biological and clinical
implications of allelic
imbalances in clonal
hematopoiesis and subsequent
risk of therapy related leukemia
at Memorial Sloan Kettering
Cancer Center, New York

UTAH

Gregory S. Ducker, PhD, and
Kimberley J. Evason, MD, PhD
Targeting phosphatidylcholine
metabolism in liver cancer using
zebrafish at Huntsman Cancer
Institute at the University of
Utah, Salt Lake City

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TEXAS

Xiaochun Li, PhD*
Investigation of Hedgehog
and Wnt signaling mechanisms
at University of Texas
Southwestern Medical
Center, Dallas

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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.

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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](https://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.



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.



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!



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.

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

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

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

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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.”

– **KENNETH C. FRAZIER**
EXECUTIVE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD
AND FORMER PRESIDENT AND CEO
MERCK

BROADWAY PREMIER CIRCLE

The Broadway Premier Circle is a group of loyal Damon Runyon Broadway Tickets customers who have made a special donation in support of cancer research. The Premier Circle offers members priority access to tickets and other benefits.

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DISCOVERY SOCIETY

Discovery Society members are valued supporters who have provided for the Damon Runyon Cancer Research Foundation through future planned gifts. These donations provide a vital source of support and fuel future breakthroughs against cancer.

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WAYS TO GIVE



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PHONE
1.877.7CANCER or 1.877.722.6237
9 am–5 pm ET, Monday to Friday



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DAMON RUNYON BROADWAY TICKETS
Damon Runyon Broadway Tickets offers Broadway’s best seats and the opportunity to support cutting-edge cancer research at the same time. Orchestra seats are available for even the most popular shows.

Join our Premier Circle to enjoy benefits like priority access to tickets before they go on sale each month, and more.

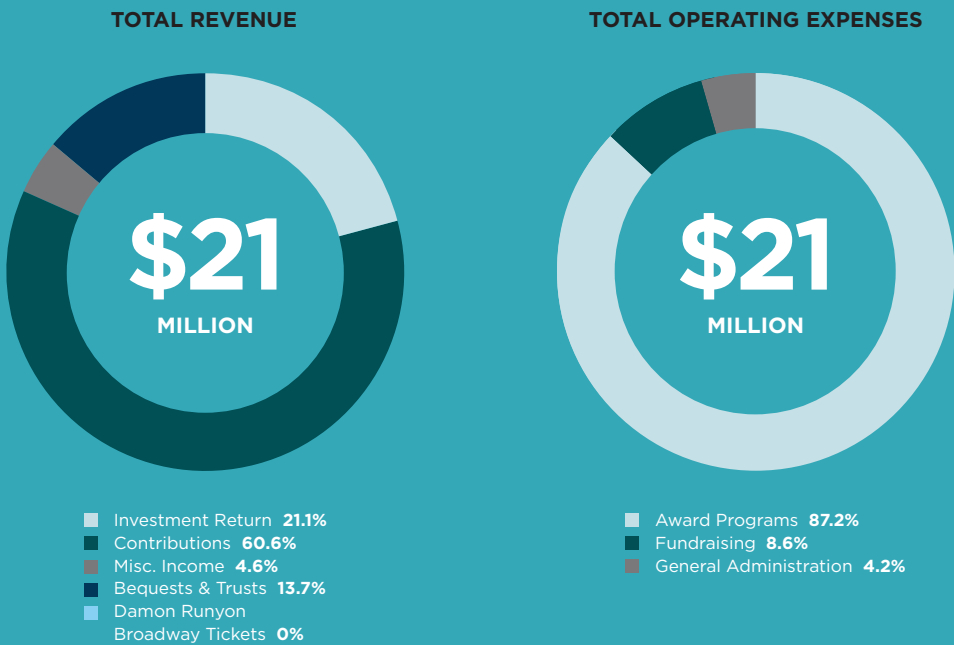
Our Gift Certificates are perfect for holiday gifts, as well as birthdays, anniversaries, or any occasion—a fun night and a meaningful gift.

Call us for tickets at 212.455.0550 between 9 am–5 pm ET, Monday to Friday. Purchase tickets online at damonrunyon.org/broadway

FINANCIAL SUMMARY 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



| SUMMARY OF BALANCE SHEETS | 2020 | | 2021 |
|------------------------------|-------------------|---------------|---------------|
| | Total Assets | \$148,107,071 | \$175,580,654 |
| | Total Liabilities | \$35,521,826 | \$32,562,162 |
| | Total Net Assets | \$112,585,24 | \$143,018,485 |



100% OF YOUR DONATION FUNDS BRILLIANT SCIENTISTS.
We pay our low overhead with revenue from Damon Runyon Broadway Tickets and our endowment.

**100% OF YOUR DONATION
FUNDS BRILLIANT SCIENTISTS.**

DAMON RUNYON
CANCER RESEARCH
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Funding brave and bold.