WELCOME
DELIVERING CURES THROUGH CANCER SCIENCE

We are pleased to present the 2016 Annual Report of the American Association for Cancer Research (AACR). The report highlights the AACR’s steadfast progress during the past year in support of our mission to prevent and cure cancer through research, education, communication, and collaboration. The theme of the AACR Annual Meeting 2016, “Delivering Cures through Cancer Science,” is also the theme of this report. The report outlines all of the ways in which AACR programs and initiatives support the full spectrum of cancer research and focus the efforts of the entire cancer community on improving the lives of cancer patients.

By any measure, 2016 was a spectacular year for the AACR. Throughout the year, leading AACR members provided thought leadership to Vice President Joe Biden’s National Cancer Moonshot Initiative. The AACR Annual Meeting 2016 was the largest ever, as more than 19,400 members of the cancer community gathered in New Orleans to share the latest advances across the full spectrum of cancer research. AACR Project GENIE delivered on its promise to catalyze clinical and translational cancer research through data sharing, making freely available one of the largest real-world cancer genomic data sets ever released. And AACR’s scientific publishing program celebrated 100 years of disseminating the most innovative cancer science.

As we look back on a year of exciting progress against cancer, we thank the members of the cancer community who worked together with the AACR in pursuit of our mission. And as we prepare to celebrate the AACR’s 110th anniversary in 2017, we look forward to continuing these collaborations in the coming year and beyond.

We are driving progress against cancer. We are realizing the promise of research. We are delivering cures through cancer science.
PROGRESS AGAINST CANCER IN 2016

Driven by research

Basic research deepens our understanding of the complexities of cancer, establishing a vital foundation for future progress. It improves survival and quality of life for people around the world because it powers the development of new and better ways to prevent, detect, diagnose, treat, and cure many of the diseases known as cancer. As a result of research advances, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved seven new medical products for use in oncology—three new anticancer therapeutics, one new cancer screening test, one new diagnostic test, and two new diagnostic imaging agents—in 2016 alone. During this time, the FDA also approved 16 new uses for 10 previously approved anticancer therapeutics. Five of the FDA approvals in 2016 were for drugs that harness the power of a patient’s immune system to treat his or her cancer. These revolutionary treatments are designed for drugs that target specific molecules involved in cancer, referred to as molecularly targeted therapies. Two of these drugs—ibrutinib (Imbruvica) and venetoclax (Venclexta)—target cancer in new ways. Three approvals highlight how an increasing understanding of cancer biology can lead to new treatment approaches, providing more patients the opportunity to live longer, higher quality lives after a cancer diagnosis than ever before.

Seven of the FDA approvals in 2016 were for drugs that target specific molecules involved in cancer, referred to as molecularly targeted therapies. Two of these drugs—ibrutinib (Imbruvica) and venetoclax (Venclexta)—target cancer in new ways. These approvals highlight how an increasing understanding of cancer biology can lead to new treatment approaches, providing more patients the opportunity to live longer, higher quality lives after a cancer diagnosis than ever before.

The AACR is proud to have helped accelerate the progress made against cancer in 2016 through its many programs, services, and initiatives. For example, results from the clinical trial that led to the November 2016 FDA approval of the immunotherapeutic nivolumab (Opdivo) for treating cancer patients with head and neck cancer were first presented at an AACR Annual Meeting in late 2015. The momentum couldn’t be greater.”

As Dr. Davidson noted in the AACR Cancer Progress Report 2016, “This is an amazing time scientifically for us; the momentum couldn’t be greater.

“I’m living proof that immunotherapy works, and I can’t stress enough how much the research thinking that lets drugs like nivolumab mean to me. Nivolumab gave me hope again. I can live life and see the future. Nivolumab gave me hope again. I can live life and see the future.”

As a featured survivor in the AACR Cancer Progress Report 2016, Philip Prichard was diagnosed with kidney cancer that eventually spread throughout his body. hospital and decided we would get a second opinion. The doctor told me about a clinical trial testing a new drug that would turn on my immune system to fight the cancer. For 6 months I received immunotherapies, and my tumors shrank by 30 percent. Within months of receiving nivolumab, tumors had reduced by 30 percent. I began feeling better. After the first 3 months, scans showed that the tumors had reduced by 30 percent. My spirit has lifted even more with every scan since, because each one showed that the tumors were shrinking even more. I’m living proof that immunotherapy works, and I can’t stress enough how much the research thinking that lets drugs like nivolumab mean to me. Nivolumab gave me hope again. I can live life and see the future.”

PHILIP PRICHARD

American Association for Cancer Research Annual Report 2016
NATIONAL CANCER MOONSHOT Initiative
BRINGING AACR THOUGHT LEADERSHIP TO THE MOONSHOT

The progress and promise of cancer research were focal points of the national conversation throughout 2016—and the AACR was the authoritative voice in that conversation. The discussion was sparked by Vice President Joe Biden, whose son, Beau, died of brain cancer in May 2015. In October of that year, Biden announced that he would forgo a run for the presidency in order to dedicate his energy to “a moonshot in this country to cure cancer... an absolute national commitment to end cancer as we know it today.”

Inspired by the vice president’s passion, President Obama announced the launch of the National Cancer Moonshot Initiative in his January 2016 State of the Union address and appointed Biden to lead it. Emboldened by this challenge from the White House, the cancer research community spent 2016 engaging with the vice president to determine how national resources could be applied to foster a decade’s worth of progress against cancer in five years.

Even before the announcement of the National Cancer Moonshot Initiative, the AACR provided thought leadership to the White House on the current state of cancer research, on ways to advance regulatory science to speed innovation, on efforts to make more therapies available to more patients, and on the importance of cancer prevention and detection. Since the launch of Biden’s initiative, AACR members, leaders, and staff have worked to shape and realize the vice president’s vision.

TIMELINE: THE AACR’S SUPPORT OF THE CANCER MOONSHOT

• January 8: AACR Leaders Visit Vice President’s Office. The week before the State of the Union Address, a group of 15 AACR members—led by 2015-2016 AACR President José Baselga, MD, PhD, FAACR, and comprising several AACR board members and leaders from 10 of the top cancer centers and medical institutions in the U.S.—met with Vice President Biden’s senior staff. The agenda included a discussion of the state of cancer research and the vice president’s commitment to ending cancer.
I believe we need a moonshot in this country to cure cancer[,]...
The AACR Annual Meeting is the critical driver of scientific progress against cancer. For the fourth consecutive year, the meeting hosted a record number of attendees. More than 19,400 scientists, clinicians, patients, and advocates from 74 countries gathered in New Orleans to define and discuss the frontiers of innovative cancer science for the benefit of cancer patients.

BRINGING THE CANCER RESEARCH COMMUNITY TO NEW ORLEANS

The host city for the 2016 Annual Meeting—New Orleans, Louisiana—is burdened with high cancer incidence and mortality. The AACR reached out to patients, advocates, and other members of the New Orleans community to address this burden with an educational event titled “Progress and Promise Against Cancer.” Moderated by AACR President Nancy Davidson, MD, the event featured respected speakers from the Annual Meeting program and local experts from cancer centers educating local residents on topics such as cancer health disparities, prevention, clinical trials, and immunotherapy.

LAUNCHPAD FOR THE CANCER MOONSHOT

The Annual Meeting also showcased the AACR’s pivotal role in the National Cancer Moonshot Initiative. The National Cancer Advisory Board’s Blue Ribbon Panel on the Cancer Moonshot held its first in-person meeting at the Annual Meeting, as most of the panel’s members had gathered with the cancer community in New Orleans. In addition, Vice President Joe Biden addressed more than 4,000 attendees on the final day of the meeting, thanking them for their dedication to the cause of “ending cancer as we know it.” The Vice President discussed the importance of removing political barriers, fostering collaborations and data sharing, and realigning priorities in cancer research to better serve patients.

There is more brain power in this room than exists in many countries. And we need you. You’re the very best we have.

—VICE PRESIDENT JOE BIDEN
AACR ANNUAL MEETING
APRIL 20, 2017
Highlights of the cutting-edge research presented at the meeting were summarized by AACR leaders in a wrap-up plenary session. José Baselga, MD, PhD, 2015-2016 AACR president, gave an overview of some of the groundbreaking clinical research presented at the meeting, focusing on three main areas. He opened by highlighting a prospective clinical trial that he said had the potential to change clinical practice. The trial, which was presented in a clinical trials plenary session by Martine Piccart, MD, PhD, showed that using the MammaPrint genetic test can reduce the use of adjuvant chemotherapy (chemotherapy given postsurgery) among early-stage breast cancer patients. The second topic addressed by Baselga was the use of new investigational precision therapeutics to target cancers fueled by specific gene alterations. In particular, he highlighted results from two early-stage clinical trials showing high response rates among patients with cancers fueled by TRK gene alterations after treatment with TRK-targeted therapeutics. Baselga wrapped up his remarks by reviewing a number of presentations detailing the promise of immunotherapy for treating patients with an increasing number of types of cancer, including head and neck cancer and Merkel cell carcinoma.

Elaine R. Mardis, PhD, a member of the AACR Board of Directors, highlighted a range of presentations on cancer prevention and early detection research. She opened by focusing on several presentations of studies using new technologies to enhance early detection. Among those presentations were several that focused on detailing the genomic mutations that characterize precancers at several anatomic sites, understanding how these genomic landscapes differ from those of invasive cancers at the same sites, and investigating whether the genomic changes that signify precancer’s progression to invasive cancer can be detected by liquid biopsies. Mardis then discussed a presentation on a low-cost, high-resolution microscope imaging system that researchers have shown can accurately identify precancerous lesions of the cervix before concluding her comments by highlighting a forum on the nascent field of digital exposomics. Mardis explained that digital exposomics refers to the digital measurement of environmental exposures and other personalized metrics during critical or general periods of life and to the linking of these data to molecular changes with the overarching goal of understanding how environmental exposures affect risk of developing cancer.

Nancy E. Davidson, MD, 2016-2017 AACR president, concluded the session by highlighting four ways in which we can rise to the challenge presented by the increase in global cancer incidence: identify new approaches to cancer prevention; advance efforts in cancer screening and early detection; develop new and better ways to treat patients; and optimize the use of the tools we already have for cancer prevention, detection, diagnosis, and treatment.
ANNUAL MEETING
AT A GLANCE

19,400
People attended the meeting. The Annual Meeting 2016 was the largest in the history of the AACR.

74
Countries were represented at the meeting, including seven in Africa. The inaugural AACR Travel Awards for African Cancer Researchers supported the attendance of five African investigators at the meeting.

5,649
Papers were presented in poster sessions or as presentations.

255
Scientific sessions showcased the latest cancer science, including 48 major symposia, five plenary sessions, and 30 recent advances sessions focusing on breakthroughs in prevention, diagnostics, therapeutics, and cancer research. The program also promoted discussion of open questions in cancer science. In addition to 11 forum sessions on controversial issues facing investigators, the 2016 Annual Meeting featured a new Cancer Dialogue session titled “Maximizing Cancer Cures: How Do We Get There?” Moderated by 2015-2016 AACR President José Baselga, MD, PhD, FAACR, the session featured a panel of experts from academia, industry, and government discussing the challenges and opportunities that face the cancer research community.

138
Clinical trials were presented, the largest number of trials ever presented at an AACR Annual Meeting. Several high-impact trials were presented in four special plenary sessions, including two trials with the potential to change clinical practice.

32
News releases were distributed.

210
Reporters registered to cover the meeting.

1,800
Media stories were generated.

29,944
Tweets mentioned the Annual Meeting.

7,955
Unique users joined the social media conversation.

541
Scientists, clinicians, patients, and advocates participated in the third annual ABC News Twitter chat from the Annual Meeting—including Program Committee Chair Scott A. Armstrong, MD, PhD, and AACR Board of Directors member George D. Demetri, MD.

8,153
People viewed the AACR’s Facebook Live broadcasts during the Annual Meeting. Less than two weeks after Facebook launched its new live-streaming application, the AACR premiered two live broadcasts. In addition to Vice President Biden’s address to meeting attendees, the AACR live-streamed interviews with cancer experts on the topic of “Accelerating Progress against Cancer.” Moderated by AACR President Nancy Naldini, MD, the broadcast featured Program Committee Chair Scott A. Armstrong, MD, PhD, and AACR Board of Directors members George D. Demetri, MD, and Drew M. Pardoll, MD, PhD.

ANNUAL MEETING
MEDIA COVERAGE

News from the AACR Annual Meeting 2016 spread around the world, as the authoritative cancer research meeting produced a significant amount of news coverage and social media activity.

30
Scientists, clinicians, patients, and advocates participated in the third annual ABC News Twitter chat from the Annual Meeting—including Program Committee Chair Scott A. Armstrong, MD, PhD, and AACR Board of Directors member George D. Demetri, MD.
A CENTURY OF DISSEMINATING WORLD-CLASS CANCER RESEARCH

CELEBRATING THE AACR’S SCIENTIFIC PUBLISHING CENTENNIAL

AACR journals commemorated a century of scientific publishing in 2016 with a special walk-through exhibit at the Annual Meeting in New Orleans. The display featured classic historical articles from the first few decades of AACR publications, highlighting the AACR’s role in establishing the foundations of cancer science. Landmark studies published in the early editions of AACR journals included the following:

• An extensive study of a family with a high degree of cancer occurrence that established the inheritability of some cancers, such as colorectal and endometrial cancer (Warthin, 1925).
• The first paper published in the cancer literature identifying substances in tar that cause cancer (Burrows, et al., 1932).
• The first English-language reports of estrogen inducing mammary tumors in mice (Lacassagne, 1936).

CANCER RESEARCH: THE VOICE OF THE CANCER COMMUNITY FOR 75 YEARS

The AACR also marked the 75th anniversary of its flagship journal, Cancer Research, in 2016. This milestone was commemorated throughout the year on seminal articles published in the journal that arguably formed the basis of modern cancer research, including the following:

• One of the first studies to report that the tumor-promoting effects of a high-fat diet could be directly attributed to caloric intake (Lehr and Bunn, 1943).
• A paper that provided the critical link between cancer incidence and smoking (Wynder et al., 1955).
• An analysis of United Nations research on the consequences of atomic testing a year before the United States, United Kingdom, and Soviet Union signed the Limited Test Ban Treaty (Option, 1962).
• A critical paper demonstrating the importance of the microvessels to tumor growth, focusing the cancer community on the concept of tumor angiogenesis (Folkman, 1971).

CANCER IMMUNOLOGY RESEARCH: EXPLORING THE NEWEST FRONTIER OF CANCER SCIENCE

While celebrating its primary role in the history of cancer research, the AACR continued to define the rapidly expanding frontiers of cancer immunology and immunotherapy through its newest journal, Cancer Immunology Research. Led by new Editors-in-Chief Robert D. Schreiber, PhD, and Philip D. Greenberg, MD, the journal was ranked 20th out of 213 oncology journals with regard to impact factor in its fourth year of publication.

AACR JOURNALS ONLINE

As part of its commitment to the most effective dissemination of high-quality cancer science worldwide, the AACR migrated to a platform that improved the readability and ease of navigation for all of its journals in 2016. Interest in the online journals continued to increase, as journal articles were viewed nearly 71 million times in 2016.

In 1916, the Editorial Committee of the AACR launched The American Journal of Cancer, the first cancer journal published in English. Over the past hundred years, the AACR scientific publishing program has provided a forum for the most innovative cancer science, expanding to eight journals to encompass the full spectrum of basic, translational, clinical, and epidemiological research.
The AACR thanks its editors-in-chief for their hard work and stewardship of its scientific publishing program.
Two satellite offices. Twelve organizations. Five continents.
The AACR continued to promote scientific excellence around the world in 2016 with an expanded slate of programs and partnerships.

NEW HORIZONS CONFERENCE
At the third annual conference on New Horizons in Cancer Research in November 2016, the AACR brought the excitement of the Annual Meeting to the cancer research community in Asia. AACR President (2015-2016) José Baselga, MD, PhD, FAACR, and Annual Meeting Program Chair Scott Armstrong, MD, PhD, worked with local experts on the Regional Advisory Committee to showcase the breadth and depth of advances in cancer science.

The program included two early-career scientists whose outstanding work has been fostered by AACR grants. Nikhil Wagle, MD, a recipient of a 2016 AACR NextGen Grant for Transformative Cancer Research, and Christine M. Lovly, a recipient of the 2015 AACR-Genentech BioOncology Career Development Award, presented their results in a session on “Genomics, Targeted Therapies, and Clinical Applications.”

EXPANDING PRESENCE IN ASIA
The organization bolstered its presence in Asia in November 2016 with the launch of an AACR International website. Hosted on the aacr.asia domain, the site provides users with information on relevant AACR conferences and grants as well as cancer science news from AACR journals. In concert with the Shanghai office and the ongoing series of meetings in the region, the website supports the AACR’s efforts to foster the highest quality science in Asia.
Expanding its international collaborations in 2016, the AACR worked with nine different international scientific organizations to develop seven joint conferences and workshops:

**TENTH AACR-JCA JOINT CONFERENCE ON BREAKTHROUGHS IN CANCER RESEARCH: FROM BIOLOGY TO THERAPEUTICS**
*Maui, Hawaii, February 2016*

**ECCO-AACR-EORTC-ESMO WORKSHOP ON METHODS IN CLINICAL CANCER RESEARCH**
*Zeist, The Netherlands, June 2016*

**FIFTH JCA-AACR SPECIAL JOINT CONFERENCE ON THE LATEST ADVANCES IN HEMATOLOGICAL CANCER RESEARCH: FROM BASIC SCIENCE TO THERAPEUTICS**
*Urayasu, Japan, July 2016*

**EORTC-NCI-EMA-AACR INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON INNOVATION AND BIOMARKERS IN CANCER DRUG DEVELOPMENT**
*Brussels, Belgium, September 2016*

**ACORD: AUSTRALIA & ASIA PACIFIC CLINICAL ONCOLOGY RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP**
*Magenta Shores, Australia, September 2016*

**CRI-CIMT-EATI-AACR INTERNATIONAL CANCER IMMUNOTHERAPY CONFERENCE: TRANSLATING SCIENCE INTO SURVIVAL**
*New York, New York, September 2016*

**EORTC-NCI-AACR MOLECULAR TARGETS AND CANCER THERAPEUTICS SYMPOSIUM**
*Munich, Germany, December 2016*

The AACR worked with three additional organizations to sponsor sessions at or provide program support for the following conferences:

**TATA CENTRE JUBILEE CONFERENCE: A CONFERENCE OF NEW IDEAS IN CANCER—CHALLENGING DOGMAS**
*Mumbai, India, February 2016*

The AACR was a conference partner, and AACR member Varsha Gandhi, PhD, served on the Program Committee and delivered a symposium presentation on “Novel PI3 kinase inhibitors: Bench to bedside.”

**AACR ANNUAL MEETING**
*New Orleans, Louisiana, April 2016*

The AACR and the Japanese Cancer Association (JCA) organized a joint symposium on “Molecular Pathogenesis, Diagnosis, and Treatment of ALK-induced Malignancies.”

**EIGHTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ISRAEL SOCIETY FOR CANCER RESEARCH: BREAKTHROUGHS IN CANCER RESEARCH—THE FUTURE IS NOW**
*Rehovot, Israel, May 2016*

The AACR was the organizing partner, and AACR member Jedd D. Wolchok, MD, PhD, delivered a keynote presentation on “Immunologic checkpoint blockade: Exploring combinations and mechanisms.”

**IARC 50TH ANNIVERSARY CONFERENCE: GLOBAL CANCER—OCCURRENCE, CAUSES, AND AVENUES TO PREVENTION**
*Lyon, France, June 2016*

The AACR sponsored a lecture by Past President Elizabeth Blackburn, PhD, FAACR, recipient of the 2016 IARC Medal of Honour, on “Telomeres, biology, and cancer.”

**SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL MEETINGS OF THE CHINESE SOCIETY FOR CLINICAL ONCOLOGY (CSCO)**
*Xiamen, China, September 2016*

The AACR and CSCO organized a joint symposium on “Study of Biomarkers in Cancer Immunotherapy.”

**AFRICAN RESEARCHER TRAVEL AWARDS**

The AACR invested in the education and training of African cancer investigators in 2016 through the inaugural African Cancer Researchers Travel Awards. The awards offset the travel expenses for five cancer scientists to attend the AACR Annual Meeting 2016.
HONORING ACHIEVEMENT IN SCIENCE
AACR FELLOWS: LEADERSHIP FOR THE CANCER RESEARCH COMMUNITY

The AACR Academy amplifies the AACR’s authoritative voice in the cancer research community by harnessing the innovative thinking of all of its Fellows to catalyze progress against cancer. Each new class of Fellows recognizes distinguished scientists for their groundbreaking achievements in cancer research and cancer-related biomedical science.

GUIDING THE CANCER MOONSHOT
The AACR Academy’s leading role in the cancer community was evident in April 2016 when the National Cancer Institute formed a Blue Ribbon Panel to provide scientific direction to Vice President Joe Biden’s National Cancer Moonshot Initiative. The 28-member panel, which served as a working group of the presidentially appointed National Cancer Advisory Board, included three AACR Fellows: James P. Allison, PhD; Charles L. Sawyers, MD; and Tyler Jacks, PhD (above), who was appointed cochair of the panel. Under Dr. Jacks’s leadership, the panel delivered a report in September 2016 containing ten actionable recommendations to support the Moonshot’s goal of stimulating a decade’s worth of scientific advances in five years.

CLASS OF 2016 INDUCTION
At a ceremony on the evening before the Annual Meeting in New Orleans, the 2016 class of Fellows of the AACR Academy was formally inducted. The class included (above, left to right): Joan Massagué, PhD; Joe W. Gray, PhD; Sir David P. Lane, PhD; and John E. Dick, PhD, FRS.

Fellows of the AACR Academy gathered during the AACR Annual Meeting in New Orleans to induct the 2016 class.
HONORING ACHIEVEMENT IN SCIENCE

AACR FELLOWS
CLASS OF 2016

BRUCE M. ALBERTS, PHD, FAACR
University of California
San Francisco, California
For contributions in determining the molecular and biochemical underpinnings of DNA replication.

JOHN E. DICK, PHD, FRS, FAACR
Princess Margaret Cancer Centre and McEwen Centre for Regenerative Medicine, University of Toronto
Ontario Institute for Cancer Research
Toronto, Ontario, Canada
For the discovery and characterization of normal hematopoietic stem cells isolated from both bone marrow and umbilical cord blood and leukemic stem cells from acute myeloid leukemia patients.

ERIC S. LANDER, PHD, FAACR
Harvard Medical School
The Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard
Cambridge, Massachusetts
For efforts related to the sequencing of the human genome and to defining the basic drivers of cancer.

HENRY T. LYNCH, MD, FACP, FAACR
Creighton University School of Medicine
Omaha, Nebraska
For work related to the characterization of genetic susceptibility to cancer in at risk populations.

JOSEPH SCHLESSINGER, PHD, FAACR
Yale School of Medicine
New Haven, Connecticut
For work in the field of receptor tyrosine kinases and for elucidating their intracellular signaling pathways.

JOHN E. DICK, PHD, FRS, FAACR
Princess Margaret Cancer Centre and McEwen Centre for Regenerative Medicine, University of Toronto
Ontario Institute for Cancer Research
Toronto, Ontario, Canada
For the discovery and characterization of normal hematopoietic stem cells isolated from both bone marrow and umbilical cord blood and leukemic stem cells from acute myeloid leukemia patients.

SIR DAVID P. LANE, PHD, FAACR
Agency for Science, Technology and Research (A*STAR)
Singapore
Ludwig Institute for Cancer Research
New York, New York
For contributions to the discovery of the p53 tumor suppressor protein, implicated in over 50 percent of all human cancers.

JOAN MASSAGUÉ, PHD, FAACR
Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center
New York, New York
For contributions to the understanding of the cell signaling pathways and resulting transcriptional mechanisms responsible for cancer metastasis.

CLARA D. BLOOMFIELD, MD, FAACR
The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center
James Cancer Hospital and Solove Research Institute
Columbus, Ohio
For research devoted to defining the chromosomal abnormalities that contribute to hematologic malignancies.

JOE W. GRAY, PHD, FAACR
Oregon Health & Science University
Portland, Oregon
For developing technologies that have transformed the study and understanding of the genetic alterations that contribute to cancer.

THOMAS R. CECH, PHD, FAACR
University of Colorado
Boulder, Colorado
For contributions to the discoveries of the catalytic properties of RNA and of the catalytic subunit of telomerase, telomerase reverse transcriptase.

RUDOLF JAENISCH, MD, FAACR
Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Cambridge, Massachusetts
For contributions to the development of transgenic mouse models and efforts to generate inducible pluripotent stem cells in vitro.

HONORING THE VANGUARD OF PROGRESS AGAINST CANCER

While groundbreaking investigation is critical to continued progress against cancer, dedication and collaboration make that progress possible. The 2016 AACR Scientific Achievement Awards and Lectureships recognized exceptional scientists both for their scientific innovation and for their commitment to the cancer community.

For example, the 2016 AACR Margaret Foti Award—which honors members of the cancer community for their leadership and extraordinary achievements—was presented to Waun Ki Hong, MD, FAACR. A Past President and Fellow of the AACR Academy, Dr. Hong was recognized for his seminal contributions to translational, clinical, and preventive cancer research; for his dedicated mentorship of several generations of young investigators; and for his visionary leadership in the area of science policy.

In addition, the 2016 AACR Team Science Award—which recognizes collaborative scientists who build interdisciplinary teams to accelerate progress for cancer patients—honored the Women’s Health Initiative Team for its 20-year collaboration dedicated to the prevention of women’s cancer, colorectal cancer, and other common causes of death and disability for postmenopausal women. Bringing together hundreds of investigators from more than 45 institutions, the team has conducted studies involving more than 160,000 women that have made significant contributions to public health.

Waun Ki Hong, MD, FAACR (center), recipient of the Margaret Foti Award, is recognized by AACR President (2015-2016) José Baselga, MD, PhD (left), and CEO Margaret Foti, PhD, MD (hc) (right) during the Awards Ceremony at the AACR Annual Meeting 2016.
HONORING ACHIEVEMENT IN SCIENCE

2016 AWARD RECIPIENTS AND LECTURERS

AACR G.H.A. Clowes Memorial Award
VISHVA M. DIXIT, MD
Genentech, Inc.
South San Francisco, California

AACR Princess Takamatsu Memorial Lectureship
WILLIAM G. KAELIN JR., MD, FAACR
Dana Farber Cancer Institute
Boston, Massachusetts

AACR Richard and Hinda Rosenthal Memorial Award
ANTONI RIBAS, MD, PHD
University of California Los Angeles Medical Center
Los Angeles, California

AACR Award for Outstanding Achievement in Cancer Research
FRANZISKA MICHOR, PHD
Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
Boston, Massachusetts

AACR Award for Outstanding Achievement in Cancer Epidemiology and Prevention
SIR RICHARD S. PETO, FRS, FAACR
University of Oxford
Oxford, England

AACR Team Science Award: Women’s Health Initiative Team

Members of the Women’s Health Initiative Team are presented with the 2016 AACR Team Science Award during the Opening Ceremony at the AACR Annual Meeting 2016 (holding plaques, from left to right): Ross L. Prentice, PhD; Electra D. Paskett, PhD; Rowan T. Chlebowski, MD, PhD; and Garnet L. Anderson, PhD.

AACR Outstanding Investigator Award for Breast Cancer Research, Funded by Susan G. Komen
FERSON J. COUDY, PHD
University of Minnesota

AACR Award for Lifetime Achievement in Cancer Research
ROBERT A. WEINBERG, PHD, FAACR
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Institute for Biomedical Research
Cambridge, Massachusetts

AACR-American Cancer Society Award for Research Excellence in Cancer Epidemiology and Prevention

PAUL J. FORTIE, PhD
Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center
Seattle, WA

AACR Margaret F. Pye Lectureship on Cancer Research
WILLIAM F. KEFLIN, MD
Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center
New York, New York

AACR Irving Weinstein Foundation Distinguished Lecture
ROBERT S. LANGER, SCPhD
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Cambridge, Massachusetts

AACR Prize Paper Award Finalist
MEGAN K. WICKER, MD, PhD
University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center
Houston, Texas

AACR-Irving Weinstein Foundation Distinguished Lecture
JAMES B. BRADNER, MD
Novartis Institutes for BioMedical Research
Cambridge, Massachusetts

AACR-Minorities in Cancer Research Jane Cooke Wright Memorial Lectureship
WORTA MCCASKILL-STEVENS, MD, MS
National Cancer Institute
Rockville, Maryland

AACR-Pezcoller Foundation-AACR International Award for Cancer Research
JOAN MASSAGUÈ, PHD, FAACR
Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center
New York, New York

AACR Award for Chemistry in Cancer Research
JAMES BRADNER, MD
Novartis Institutes for BioMedical Research
Cambridge, Massachusetts

AACR Outstanding Investigator Award for Breast Cancer Research, Funded by Susan G. Komen

NAOMI I. BAXTER, MD
Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center
Seattle, WA

AACR Photographs: Kevinorn, hr

Photo courtesy of Todd Buchanan

2016 AACR Annual Meeting 2016
American Association for Cancer Research
American Association for Cancer Research
American Association for Cancer Research
American Association for Cancer Research
American Association for Cancer Research
In November 2015, the AACR announced the launch of AACR Project GENIE, a multiphase, multinational, international project formed to realize the promise of precision medicine to benefit cancer patients. As the founding organization and leader of GENIE, the AACR houses the Coordinating Center, which organizes and executes on all aspects of the project. The AACR also provided the seed funding to launch the project.

On January 5, 2017, a little more than a year after the launch of the project, the AACR made the first data release from the project publicly available. These data consist of nearly 19,000 de-identified genomic records and the associated limited clinical data collected from patients who were treated at the eight participating institutions. The dataset covers 59 major cancer types, including data on more than 5,000 patients with lung cancer, 2,000 patients with breast cancer, and 2,000 patients with brain cancer. By making the data available to the global research community, AACR Project GENIE advances new clinical cancer research in myriad ways, including but not limited to:

- Validating gene signatures of drug response or prognosis;
- Identifying new patient populations for previously approved drugs;
- Expanding patient populations that will benefit from existing drugs; and
- Discovering new drug targets and biomarkers.

The release of this initial dataset is only a starting point. The dataset will be continually expanded with regular data additions and public releases, and the project is now accepting applications for new participating centers—five years ahead of schedule. The project is also open to sponsored research requests to use the data to gather deeper clinical-outcomes information on specific subsets of patients to make the connection between genotypes and clinical phenotypes. Moving forward, the AACR Project GENIE registry will provide a valuable tool to the cancer community, solving a multitude of clinical and research challenges and improving the lives of cancer patients.

Members of the AACR Project GENIE team met at the AACR office in October 2016 to prepare for the first public data release.

Members of the AACR Childhood Cancer Predisposition Workshop, which met in October 2016 to develop clinical surveillance guidelines and recommendations for childhood cancer predisposition syndromes.
Solving the complexities of the cancer problem requires the concerted effort of a variety of groups. As the authoritative voice in cancer research, the AACR brings these groups together—focusing their collective knowledge to advance the development of innovative cancer research.

For Integrative Cancer Prevention—A Road Map

Throughout its history, the AACR has been dedicated to accelerating the development of innovative cancer research. A concerted effort of a variety of groups. As the authoritative voice in cancer research, the AACR brings these groups together—focusing their collective knowledge to advance the development of innovative cancer research.

AACR THINK TANK: GENOMICS IN CLINICAL MEDICINE

While the emerging insights yielded by genomic data have moved the promise of cancer precision medicine into the realm of possibility, logistical challenges under the transition of that promise into everyday oncology practice. To address these challenges and accelerate the application of precision medicine to the patients, Pan Pacific, Brian B. M. MD, PhD, FAACR, convened an AACR Think Tank on Genomics in Clinical Medicine in July 2016. As a treated scientific partner, the AACR provided common ground for the discussion of comprehensive strategies for advancing the application of genomic data. The Think Tank identified actionable first steps that the key players could take to overcome them. A report from this think tank is currently in preparation.

AACR CHILDHOOD CANCER PREVENTION SUMMIT: WORKSHOP—OPTIMIZING PEDIATRIC SURVEILLANCE AND CARE THROUGH PRECISION GENETICS

Throughout its history, the AACR has focused on the prevention of cancer incidence, identified future research priorities in science, early detection, and cancer intervention, and developed a plan to optimize the AACR’s support of the prevention community; and defined the AACR’s role in advocating for public policy and education in cancer prevention.

AACR CANCER PREVENTION SUMMIT: SHAPING THE FUTURE OF CANCER PREVENTION—A ROAD MAP FOR INTEGRATIVE CANCER SCIENCE AND PUBLIC HEALTH

Through its history, the AACR has advanced the frontiers of cancer prevention science in support of the prevention of cancer incidence, the reduction of cancer incidence, and mortality and morbidity. In February 2016, to evaluate their history and set a course for future efforts, the AACR organized a Cancer Prevention Summit on “Shaping the Future of Cancer Prevention.” A Road Map for Integrative Cancer Science and Public Health. Chaired by Ernest T. Hawk, MD, MPH, and Scott M. Lippman, MD, the summit brought together nearly 70 scientists, clinicians, patient advocates, regulators, payers, and patient advocates. At the July meeting—the first stage of a multiyear project—the think tank identified actionable first steps that the key players could take to overcome them. A report from this think tank is currently in preparation.

AACR CHILDHOOD CANCER PREVENTION SUMMIT: WORKSHOP—OPTIMIZING PEDIATRIC SURVEILLANCE AND CARE THROUGH PRECISION GENETICS

Through a number of programs—i.e., conferences, grants, task forces, and a pediatric cancer working group—the AACR has worked to establish childhood cancer research as a global priority. These efforts included fostering the early detection and treatment of pediatric cancer in 2016 as the AACR gathered more than 50 pediatric cancer experts from around the world for a three-day workshop in October. Under the leadership of Chairs Garrett M. Robertson, MD, and David Baltimore, MD, the workshop participants developed clinical surveillance recommendations for childhood cancer predisposition syndromes.

Like all AACR initiatives, this workshop established a foundation for future action. After the publication of pediatric cancer surveillance recommendations in the AACR journal Cancer Research, workshop participants will plan the formation of a working group subcommittee to develop collaboration opportunities that will further advance research on pediatric cancer prevention and risk.

AACR CHILDHOOD CANCER PREDISPOSITION WORKSHOP: CANCER PREVENTION IN CHILDREN WITH CANCER PREDISPOSITION SYNDROMES

At the July meeting—the first stage of a multiyear project—the think tank identified actionable first steps that the key players could take to overcome them. A report from this think tank is currently in preparation.

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The AACR sustains the pipeline of cancer researchers through the efforts of its Career Development Committee. Chaired by Kathleen W. Scotto, PhD, the committee provides science education for students at the high school and undergraduate levels and career development for cancer researchers through the annual meeting and at the junior faculty level.

The Science Education Committee hosted its Biennial Annual Student Cancer and Poster Competition at the AACR Annual Meeting 2016. More than 200 students participated in the program, and more than 150 students presented their work and competed for prizes in a poster session judged by leading AACR members. These senior scientists provided invaluable feedback and mentorship to all participants, inspiring them to consider careers in cancer science.

The AACR Special Program for High School Students enables high school students and their teachers to participate in an immersive day of learning about cancer and careers in science. Their experience includes presentations by senior researchers and cancer survivors, a networking lunch, and an opportunity to present their own research at the AACR meeting. The AACR Special Program for High School Students at two meetings in 2016. During the AACR Annual Meeting in New Orleans, students were greeted by New Orleans Saints player Thomas Morstead and Miss Arkansas USA, Abby Floyd. An additional high school program took place during the 2016 AACR Conference on the Science of Cancer Health Disparities in Research/Wisconsin and the Medically Underserved in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. During the program, 115 students participated in engaging talks and competed for prizes during a Cancer Bowl hosted by session chair Beverly Lynn Cook, PhD.

In 2016, the AACR Science Education Committee continued an innovative program initiated last year to sponsor prizes at high school regional science fairs. These prizes were awarded to bright students who showed an aptitude for science to encourage them to consider a career in cancer research.

ACME (American Association for Cancer Research Early Career Investigators) Awards

The ACME Awards—American Association for Cancer Research Early Career Investigators Awards—were established to inspire promising science students to enter the field of cancer research. The awards are given in honor of the late Dr. Robert C. Knudson Jr., who held the position of AACR-Cancer Research Institute Chair from 1967 to 1973.

In 2016, the ACME award committee continued to honor Dr. Knudson’s legacy by recognizing the work of promising young scientists. The ACME award committee considered the contributions of 10 scientists from around the world for the 2016 ACME awards.

ACME awardees:

1. Alia L. Siegfried, Assistant Professor, University of California, San Francisco

2. Zaneta D. Pluth, Assistant Professor, University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center

3. Pauline D. Perkins, Assistant Professor, University of California, San Francisco

4. Peter L. Hui, Assistant Professor, University of California, Berkeley

5. Yiming Wang, Assistant Professor, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center

6. Sarah E. Byers, Assistant Professor, University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center

7. Darryle D. Winfrey, Assistant Professor, University of California, San Francisco

8. Anna R. C. H. Sze, Assistant Professor, Imperial College London

9. Elif Guven, Assistant Professor, University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center

10. Michael F. P. Donohue, Assistant Professor, University of California, San Francisco

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2016 WORKSHOPS
Meeting Held outside U.S.

AACR-ACT INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP ON PANCREATIC CANCER: ADVANCES IN DEVELOPMENT AND VALIDATION WORKSHOPS
Meeting Held outside U.S.

AACR-ACT INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP ON PATIENT-DERIVED CANCER MODELS:
PRESENTATION OF THE FIRST RESULTS FROM THE AACR-PDRI WORKSHOP
Meeting Held outside U.S.

AACR-EDUCATIONAL WORKSHOP ON NEW HORIZONS IN CANCER RESEARCH DELIVERING CARES THROUGH CANCER SCIENCE
Meeting Held outside U.S.

AACR-EDUCATIONAL WORKSHOP ON SCIENCE AND EDUCATION IN CANCER MEETINGS AND EDUCATIONAL WORKSHOPS
Meeting Held outside U.S.

2016 WORKSHOPS
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Meeting Held outside U.S.

HYPERMETHYLATION AND DNA METHYLATION CHANGES IN HUMAN MALIGNANT TUMORS: CONTRIBUTIONS TO CANCER ETIOLOGY AND PROGRESSION
Meeting Held outside U.S.

AACR-JCA JOINT SPECIAL CONFERENCE: THE LATEST ADVANCES IN TRANSLATIONAL CANCER RESEARCH—FROM LABORATORY TO CLINIC
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The AACR grants program is a critical driver of exciting and innovative cancer research. Over the past two decades, more than $300 million in grants has been awarded and administered through a rigorous peer-reviewed grants program. Continued growth of the grants program in 2016 was fueled through new and enhanced partnerships with nonprofit organizations and pharmaceutical companies. This vital support enabled the AACR to extend its reach even further, providing resources to support basic, translational, and clinical research in the United States as well as Canada, Germany, Spain, and Italy.

Recipients of the 2016 AACR NextGen Grants for Transformative Cancer Research are honored at the opening ceremony of the AACR Annual Meeting (left to right): Nikhil Wagle, MD; Sophia Y. Lunt, PhD; Andrew C. Hsieh, MD; and Paul A. Northcott, PhD.

Scientists were funded in 2016; these investigators—including Holly Martinson, PhD (far right)—received more than $8.2 million to support work that spans the spectrum of cancer research.

$3.6 million
In funding was awarded to mentored scientists, providing critical resources to support the career development of the next generation of researchers.

$1.8 million
Was awarded to the inaugural recipients of the AACR NextGen Grants for Transformative Cancer Research, supported by the AACR, Bayer, Incyte, and Takeda Oncology.

Holly Martinson, PhD is a postdoctoral fellow studying health disparities in the Alaska Native population at the University of Alaska, Anchorage (UAA). She is a recipient of the Debbie’s Dream Foundation-AACR Gastric Cancer Research Fellowship, which supports postdoctoral or clinical research fellows to conduct gastric cancer research and to establish a successful career path in this field. Born and raised in Anchorage, Dr. Martinson is the first Alaskan to receive an AACR grant.

I am one of the only cancer researchers in the state of Alaska, so the connections I made with other leaders in the gastric cancer field as a result of receiving this grant have been invaluable to my career development and success in establishing my own cancer research lab at UAA.

One of the largest health disparities in the Alaska Native population relates to gastric cancer. Members of the Alaska Native population are three times more likely to be diagnosed with gastric cancer and four times more likely to die from it than Caucasians in the United States. My research goal is to better distinguish patients that are at high risk of developing gastric cancer and to identify drugs that can treat or prevent this disease that don’t respond to current therapies.
The AACR is proud to serve as the Scientific Partner of Stand Up To Cancer (SU2C), an organization that harnesses the power of the entertainment industry to support collaborative, translational cancer research. With ongoing oversight of scientific peer review and grants administration from the AACR, SU2C developed new funding partnerships to launch transformative new programs in 2016.

**SU2C FUNDING PARTNERS**

In 2016, SU2C along with the AACR launched SU2C Catalyst, a new program that utilizes funds and products from the pharmaceutical, biotechnology, diagnostic, and medical-device industries to accelerate research on cancer prevention, detection, and treatment. March is in the Founding Consortium. Bristol-Myers Squibb Company and Genentech, a member of the Roche Group, are Charter Supporters. Under the SU2C Catalyst program, these companies donate funds to support collaborative research projects using their products, such as diagnostic tests, new pharmaceutical compounds under development, approved agents, and in-licensed products that can be investigated for other uses.

**NEW SU2C DREAM TEAMS**

The fundamental principles of the Stand Up To Cancer funding model are collaboration, innovation, accelerated therapy, and translational research. These principles are exemplified by the SU2C Dream Teams, a scientific task force consisting of leading scientists and translational researchers. These teams have been created to fund their efforts. As the Scientific Partner of SU2C, the AACR has provided scientific oversight, and grants administration to the Dream Team program. The Scientific Review and Grants Administration Committee (SAC) has identified two important areas that will be the focus of the Dream Team program. The Scientific Review and Grants Administration Committee (SAC), led by Nihal Larouche Philip (Harvard, MA, FAACR), identified the most promising Dream Team projects. Two of these innovative projects were launched in 2016:

- **SU2C-Cancer Research UK–Lustgarten Foundation Pancreatic Cancer Dream Team: Reprogramming Transcriptional Circuitry to Control Cancer**
  - **Dream Team Leader**: Daniel D. Von Hoff, MD, FACP, FAACR
  - **Co-Leaders**: Ronald M. Evans, PhD, FAACR, and Gerard J. Erusalim, PhD
  - **Funder**
  - **Founding Collaborator**: Bristol-Myers Squibb Company and Genentech, a member of the Roche Group
  - **Supporter**: AstraZeneca

  **This Dream Team aims to reprogram the transcriptional circuitry of cancer cells, which distinguishes them from normal body cells, find out how these differences make the cancer cells vulnerable, and then target their destruction more efficiently in order to kill the cancer cells.**

- **SU2C PHILLIP A. SHARP INNOVATION IN COLLABORATION AWARDS**
  - **Funder**: SU2C-Cancer Research UK–Lustgarten Foundation Pancreatic Cancer Dream Team leader (left to right)
  - **Co-Leaders**: Ronald M. Evans, PhD, FAACR, and Gerard J. Erusalim, PhD

  **This Dream Team's approach is to identify new vulnerabilities in cancer cells and push the tumors into lasting remission.**

**FIFTH SU2C TELECAST RAISES AWARENESS AND FUNDS FOR CANCER RESEARCH**

On September 9, 2016, SU2C along with the AACR and Spanish, and featured appearances by Bradley Cooper, Rob Riggle (left), and Ken Jeong (right), discussed the AACR’s role as Scientific Partner to Stand Up To Cancer during the 2016 SU2C Telecast.

SU2C—Canada-Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation Breast Cancer Dream Team Leader: Tak W. Mak, MD, FAACR
- **Co-Leader**: Samuel Aparicio, BM, BCh, PhD
- **Funder**: Bristol-Myers Squibb in 2016.

**This Dream Team aims to determine the genetic differences in the cancer cells that distinguish them from normal body cells, find out how these differences make the cancer cells vulnerable, and then target their destruction more efficiently in order to kill the cancer cells.**

**SU2C FUNDING PARTNERS**

**SU2C-Cancer Research UK–Lustgarten Foundation Pancreatic Cancer Dream Team Leaders (left to right)
  - Co-Leader: Samuel Aparicio, BM, BCh, PhD
  - Dream Team Leader: Peter J. Tontonoz, MD, PhD
  - Dream Team Leader: Daniel D. Von Hoff, MD, FACP

**AWARENESS AND FUNDS FOR Cancer Research**

On September 9, SU2C produced its fifth annual telethon, Stand Up To Cancer: LaVern Baker’s Fight. For Better. For Life. The telethon was broadcast on over 40 networks in English and Spanish to bring attention to the scientific achievements of the entire SU2C community for updates on the scientific achievements of the various SU2C-funded projects. The summit explored cross-cutting themes and possibilities for collaboration across research teams.

**ANNUAL SU2C SCIENTIFIC SUMMIT**

The 2016 SU2C Scientific Summit, organized by the AACR, gathered the entire SU2C community for updates on the scientific achievements of the various SU2C-funded projects. The summit explored cross-cutting themes and possibilities for collaboration across research teams.

**2016 SU2C Telecast**

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Discussions were inspired by presentations from guest speakers Andrew Linnell, PhD, of Vanity (formerly Google Life Sciences) and Douglas R. Lowy, MD, FAACR, acting director of the National Cancer Institute. Also in attendance were the SU2C Council of Founders and Advisors and members of the patient advocate community, who illuminated the urgency of their challenge.
In 2016, the AACR Office of Science Policy and Government Affairs continued to motivate lawmakers to invest in cancer science that will benefit cancer patients. At the same time, the AACR worked to optimize that investment by fostering more efficient and effective communication among legislators, regulators, scientists, and the public.

LEADING THE CALL FOR RESEARCH FUNDING

While the cancer research enterprise is built upon the passion and talents of researchers, physician-scientists, survivors, and advocates, it is sustained through robust annual federal funding increases for the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the National Cancer Institute (NCI). As the authoritative voice of cancer scientists, the AACR called upon lawmakers to invest in cancer science that will benefit cancer patients. At the same time, the AACR continued to motivate Congress and Administration officials to make cancer research a national priority.

• February 23-24: Early Career Investigator Hill Day. The first-ever event that affected the NIH and NCI from 2004 to 2015 disproportionate affected young scientists, many of whom left the field in search of better opportunities. To educate Congress on the vital importance of sustaining the nation’s pipeline of cancer scientists through robust, sustainable, and predictable funding increases for the NIH, the AACR brought 15 associate members—including electoral candidates and Deb Gibbs for herself—into Capitol Hill in February for its first-ever advocacy initiative for early-career bench scientists. It is our turn to carry the torch from the bench to the Hill.

POLICY AND ADVOCACY

SCIENCE POLICY AND GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

Participants in the fourth annual Rally for Medical Research Hill Day. The AACR worked with the American Association of Cancer Institutes (AACI)—to host a forum titled “Progress, Promise, and Challenges in the Era of Precision Medicine.” Using Moffitt as an example, the forum highlighted how federally funded research contributes to progress against cancer at institutions across the United States. NCI Acting Director Douglas R. Lowy, MD, NIH, and U.S. Representatives Gus Bilirakis and Kathy Castor of the House Energy and Commerce Committee joined expert scientists and a patient advocate to call for robust, sustained, and predictable increases in funding for the NIH.

• March 10-12: AACR-AACI-ASCO Joint Hill Day. The AACR worked with the American Association of Cancer Institutes (AACI) to bring stakeholders from across the cancer community to Capitol Hill—including more than 80 researchers, physician-scientists, cancer center directors, cancer survivors, and patient advocates. The participants shared their diverse perspectives on the impact of sustainable cancer science funding—and demonstrated the power of informed advocacy to a new generation of civic scientists.

March 8 Cancer Research Policy Forum. The AACR partnered with Moffitt Cancer Center—with support from the American Association of Cancer Institutes (AACI)—to host a forum titled “Progress, Promise, and Challenges in the Era of Precision Medicine.” Using Moffitt as an example, the forum highlighted how federally funded research contributes to progress against cancer at institutions across the United States. NCI Acting Director Douglas R. Lowy, MD, NIH, and U.S. Representatives Gus Bilirakis and Kathy Castor of the House Energy and Commerce Committee joined expert scientists and a patient advocate to call for robust, sustained, and predictable increases in funding for the NIH.

LEE D. GIBBS

Associate Member of the AACR

Lee D. Gibbs is an Associate Member of the AACR, a professor of genetics and medical genetics at the University of North Texas Health Science Center in Fort Worth, Texas. With 14 of his fellow Associate Members, he participated in the AACR’s first Early Career Investigator Hill Day.

“As a graduate student, I have witnessed many of my closest, and most important mentors and medical genetics at the University of North Texas Health Science Center in Fort Worth, Texas. With 14 of his fellow Associate Members, I participated in the AACR’s first Early Career Investigator Hill Day.

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American Association for Cancer Research Annual Report 2016  1 41
The American Association for Cancer Research (AACR) recommended Vice President Biden’s proposal for the National Cancer Moonshot Initiative. The initiative, announced during his State of the Union Address on January 12, 2016, four days before the State of the Union Address, titled “Seizing Today’s Opportunities to Accelerate Cancer Research,” is focused on identifying and addressing barriers to cancer research.

The AACR continues its support of the FDA’s mission in 2016, partnering with the agency to engage researchers, physician-scientists, and policymakers in discussions of important regulatory issues. The AACR provided recommendations to the FDA’s Office of Science Policy about the research opportunities presented by the Cancer Moonshot project and the need for dedicated funding to realize those opportunities.

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The American Association for Cancer Research (AACR) is committed to fostering dialogue between regulators and the cancer community. At the interface between cancer science and patient care, the FDA plays a critical role in accelerating the delivery of innovative cancer treatments to meet the needs of patients and their families. The AACR continued its support of the FDA’s mission in 2016, partnering with the agency to engage researchers, physician-scientists, and policymakers in discussions of important regulatory issues.

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POLICY AND ADVOCACY

SURVIVOR AND PATIENT ADVOCACY

While the AACR’s meetings, journals, and research initiatives support the efforts of scientists and clinicians, its Survivor and Patient Advocacy Program reaches beyond the bench and the bedside to engage the patients, caregivers, and advocates who are the focus of its mission. Patient advocates are a vitally important part of the cancer field. Through programs and publications, the AACR works to ensure that patients feel at home in the cancer community and that, through education, they are empowered to understand their health and treatment options.

CANCER TODAY MAGAZINE

The advocates built upon that foundation that provided the participants with an understanding of cancer science that impacts health and treatment options. In 2016, the magazine published over 20 issues of the magazine, the making room among the most popular. A highlight of the Annual Meeting program was “Cancer Mini-Med School,” a unique lecture by Carolyn Compton, MD, PhD, that provided participants with the education in the basics of cancer biology, and the advocate built upon that foundation while attending scientific sessions and discussing the latest developments in the field with their mentors.

POLICY AND ADVOCACY

PUBLIC SERVICE AWARD

Many advances against cancer are made because of the dedicated efforts of remarkable men and women in all sectors of the cancer community. The American Association for Cancer Research (AACR) Distinguished Public Service Award honors the extraordinary contributions of an individual or group whose groundbreaking, innovative work exemplifies the AACR’s mission to eradicate the prevention and cure of all cancers through research, education, communication, and collaboration. Distinguished public service takes many forms, and past winners have included generous philanthropists, government officials, advocate, and the members of the media.

During the opening ceremony at the 2016 Annual Meeting, the AACR recognized the sustained contributions of Mary Jackson Scroggins. A 20-year cancer survivor and health activist, Mary is cofounder of the Mary Jane’s Cure, an organization focused on improving cancer care for medically underserved women and on eliminating cancer health disparities. Her national advocacy activities include serving on the President’s Cancer Moonshot Blue Ribbon Panel on Precision Prevention and Early Detection and the National Coalition for Cancer Prevention and Control Central Institutional Review Board.

In an accomplished and active career, Mary serves on the Editorial Board of Cancer Today and has written numerous articles about cancer research, clinical practice, and patient advocacy. She has also been a key participant in AACR initiatives such as the Scientist-< – >Survivor Program, the High School Student Education Program, as the Scientist< – ->Survivor Program, the AACR/ASCO Educational Workshops on Methods in Clinical Cancer Research.

POLICY AND ADVOCACY

SURVIVOR AND PATIENT ADVOCACY

Cancer Today, the AACR’s magazine for cancer patients, survivors, and caregivers, is a vital resource for anyone navigating the challenges of cancer diagnosis, treatment, and survival. In 2016, the magazine celebrated its 30th year of providing cancer patients with practical knowledge and real hope. Off the dozens of articles published over 20 issues of the magazine, the making room among the most popular.

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CANCER TODAY MAGAZINE

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POLICY AND ADVOCACY

PUBLIC SERVICE AWARD

Many advances against cancer are made because of the dedicated efforts of remarkable men and women in all sectors of the cancer community. The American Association for Cancer Research (AACR) Distinguished Public Service Award honors the extraordinary contributions of an individual or group whose groundbreaking, innovative work exemplifies the AACR’s mission to eradicate the prevention and cure of all cancers through research, education, communication, and collaboration. Distinguished public service takes many forms, and past winners have included generous philanthropists, government officials, advocate, and the members of the media.

During the opening ceremony at the 2016 Annual Meeting, the AACR recognized the sustained contributions of Mary Jackson Scroggins. A 20-year cancer survivor and health activist, Mary is cofounder of the Mary Jane’s Cure, an organization focused on improving cancer care for medically underserved women and on eliminating cancer health disparities. Her national advocacy activities include serving on the President’s Cancer Moonshot Blue Ribbon Panel on Precision Prevention and Early Detection and the National Coalition for Cancer Prevention and Control Central Institutional Review Board.

In an accomplished and active career, Mary serves on the Editorial Board of Cancer Today and has written numerous articles about cancer research, clinical practice, and patient advocacy. She has also been a key participant in AACR initiatives such as the Scientist-< – >Survivor Program, the High School Student Education Program, as the Scientist< – ->Survivor Program, the AACR/ASCO Educational Workshops on Methods in Clinical Cancer Research.

POLICY AND ADVOCACY

SURVIVOR AND PATIENT ADVOCACY

Cancer Today, the AACR’s magazine for cancer patients, survivors, and caregivers, is a vital resource for anyone navigating the challenges of cancer diagnosis, treatment, and survival. In 2016, the magazine celebrated its 30th year of providing cancer patients with practical knowledge and real hope. Off the dozens of articles published over 20 issues of the magazine, the making room among the most popular.

The advocates built upon that foundation that provided the participants with an understanding of cancer science that impacts health and treatment options. In 2016, the magazine published over 20 issues of the magazine, the making room among the most popular. A highlight of the Annual Meeting program was “Cancer Mini-Med School,” a unique lecture by Carolyn Compton, MD, PhD, that provided participants with the education in the basics of cancer biology, and the advocate built upon that foundation while attending scientific sessions and discussing the latest developments in the field with their mentors.

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With a focus on innovative cancer science and a staunch commitment to improving the lives of cancer patients worldwide, the 37,000 members of the AACR work together to pursue their common mission of preventing and curing all cancers. AACR programs and initiatives foster collaborations across the cancer research community, building productive relationships among scientists, clinicians, and patient advocates to catalyze discoveries and translate those advances to cancer patients.

**ACTIVE MEMBERS**
Established laboratory researchers, physician-scientists, clinicians, and population scientists

**ASSOCIATE MEMBERS**
Young laboratory scientists and physician-in-training (graduate students, medical students and residents, and clinical and postdoctoral fellows)

**STUDENT MEMBERS**
Undergraduate and high school students

**EMERITUS MEMBERS**
Active members who have reached the age of 70 years

**AFFILIATE MEMBERS**
Other health care professionals (practicing oncologists, nurses, laboratory technicians, non-scientific corporate professionals, and patient advocates)

5,433 New members joined the AACR in 2016.

58 Nobel Laureates have been members of the AACR.

198 Patient advocates are members of the AACR. An additional 800 patient advocates have been actively involved in AACR Survivor and Patient Advocacy activities.

2,839 Individuals have been AACR members for more than 25 years.

130 Individuals have been AACR members for more than 50 years.

108 Countries are represented by AACR members.

**AACR MEMBERSHIP BY THE NUMBERS**

### MEMBERS BY CATEGORY

- Active 50%
- Associate 35%
- Affiliate 4%
- Emeritus 6%
- Student 5%

Note: Totals may not equal 100% due to rounding.
AACR members attend the opening plenary session at the AACR Annual Meeting 2016.

Note: Totals may not equal 100% due to rounding.
AACR MEMBERSHIP

HARNESSING THE POWER OF DIVERSITY

The AACR takes a deliberate approach to diversifying the cancer research community through programs designed to highlight and empower those who have been historically underrepresented in the scientific community. Through Minorities in Cancer Research (MICR), Women in Cancer Research (WICR), and the Associate Member Council (AMC), the AACR provides brilliant scientists and professional needs and advancing the careers of minority scientists. In 2016, the MICR Council provided another example of the AACR’s leadership with regard to the National Cancer Moonshot Initiative. Upon review of the initial report from the Blue Ribbon Panel, the council sent a letter to NCI Acting Director Douglas R. Lowy, MD, FAACR, on behalf of the cancer health disparities research community. The letter recommended that the panel’s report be modified to directly address the health disparities research community.

In 1996, AACR Past President Lee W. Berkman, MD, FAACR, proposed that the growing cohort of early-career scientists who comprised the AACR associate membership have their own leadership body within the organization. That year the Associate Member Council (AMC) was established to address the needs of young investigators (above). In 2016, the council marked its twentieth anniversary (above) and celebrated milestones with colleagues in science. In 2016, the council provided another example of the AACR’s leadership with regard to the National Cancer Moonshot Initiative.

The council offered, the final Blue Ribbon Panel report highlighted the inclusion of diversity patient populations in several of its recommendations.

The AACR honored Angelika Amon, PhD (above, right), at the AACR Annual Meeting in New Orleans. Dr. Amon presented her lecture, “Effects of Aneuploidy on Cell Physiology and Its Role in Tumorigenesis,” at the AACR Annual Meeting in New Orleans. The AA CR-MICR Jane Cooke Wright Lectureship, which celebrates an outstanding scientist who has specifically furthered the advancement of minority investigators, marked its tenth anniversary in 2016. That year’s lecturer was Worta McCaskill-Stevens, MD, MS, of the National Cancer Institute (above, center). Dr. McCaskill-Stevens presented her lecture, “Community Clinical Trials: A Path to Leveling the Cancer Research Playing Field,” at the AACR Annual Meeting in New Orleans.

AACR-MINORITIES IN CANCER RESEARCH (2016 COUNCIL CHAIR: RICK A. KITTLER, PHD)

• MICR is a membership group within the AACR committed to preventing and curing cancer while meeting the professional needs and advancing the careers of minority scientists. In 2016, the MICR Council provided another example of the AACR’s leadership with regard to the National Cancer Moonshot Initiative. Upon review of the initial report from the Blue Ribbon Panel, the council sent a letter to NCI Acting Director Douglas R. Lowy, MD, FAACR, on behalf of the cancer health disparities research community. The letter recommended that the panel’s report be modified to directly address the health disparities research community.

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The AACR thanks its officers and members of the board of directors for their vision, their wisdom, and their tireless efforts on behalf of the cancer research community.

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Eighty-eight cents of every dollar raised by the AACR Foundation goes to support lifesaving cancer science. The AACR thanks the officers and trustees of the Foundation for their efforts to maximize the impact of donations on the lives of cancer patients.
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AACR FOUNDATION
SUPPORTING INNOVATIVE CANCER SCIENCE

Only the AACR has the breadth and depth of scientific expertise and the authoritative voice in the community to fully achieve its ambitious goal of preventing and curing all cancers. The AACR Foundation works to provide the resources that the AACR needs to reach that goal. It supports investment in conferences, grants, and other programs that accelerate progress and impact the lives of cancer patients.

PARTY WITH A PURPOSE

The AACR Foundation built new relationships with the philanthropic community in 2016, enhancing the AACR reputation as a beneficiary of choice for discerning donors. After an extensive search, the Philadelphia-based “Party with a Purpose” group selected the Foundation as the beneficiary of its exclusive fund-raising gala. Under the leadership of President Beverly Goldberg and event chairs Meredith Goldstein, Carol Lissack, John Parker, and Yvonne Winig, the 2016 edition of Party with a Purpose attracted 410 guests and raised more than $400,000 in support of lifesaving cancer research. During the gala, philanthropist John J. (Jack) Donnelly was recognized with the Party with a Purpose Humanitarian Award for his dedication to the community. Another highlight of the event was the presentation of the newly established AACR Foundation/Party with a Purpose Scientific Achievement Award to Jeffrey A. Drebin, MD, PhD, chair of the Department of Surgery at the Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania. As part of this award, which honors the work of early-career cancer researchers, Dr. Drebin selected Major Kenneth Lee IV, MD, PhD, Penn Medicine assistant professor of surgery, to receive a $50,000 grant for his surgical and laboratory work in pancreatic cancer research.

Runners at the start of the AACR Rock ‘n’ Roll Philadelphia Half Marathon. More than 19,000 runners participated in the half marathon and a 5K race to raise funds to support cancer research.
LOCAL EVENTS: FUND-RAISING AND FRIEND-RAISING
Recognizing the potential of local philanthropy to have a global impact on cancer patients, the AACR Foundation built upon its existing fund-raising events and launched new events with the potential to expand beyond the AACR's hometown of Philadelphia.

• AACR Banners for Research. This AACR Foundation program enables individuals, groups, and companies to channel their passions for running toward a common goal of supporting cancer research by participating in fund-raising races around the country. For the second straight year, the AACR was the charity title partner to the Rock 'n' Roll race series in Philadelphia. In addition to the signature Half Marathon, the event was expanded to include a 5K race. More than 19,000 attendees and members of the local community—participated in the race that was held in the AACR's hometown of Philadelphia. In addition to the signature Half Marathon, the event was expanded to include a 5K race. More than 19,000 attendees and members of the local community—participated in the race that was held in the AACR's hometown of Philadelphia. In addition to the signature Half Marathon, the event was expanded to include a 5K race. More than 19,000 attendees and members of the local community—participated in the race that

• Overall, the AACR Banners for Research program contributed significantly to the Foundation’s fund-raising efforts in 2016, bringing in $360,000 to support the AACR mission.

• AACR Spirituality 200. At this new indoor cycling event, teams of participants rode 200 minutes during three sessions to raise awareness of and research funds for the more than 200 types of cancer. While the inaugural event—which raised $258,000 to fund cancer science—was held in the AACR's hometown of Philadelphia, the Foundation established a model that can be replicated in other locations to expand the AACR base of support.

PUBLIC OUTREACH CAMPAIGN
In 2016, the Foundation continued its efforts to educate the public about the mission of the AACR and how funding that mission can have a vital impact on the lives of cancer patients. Several of these cancer patients were featured in a marketing campaign in the Philadelphia region, telling their stories about how advances in cancer treatment enabled them to go beyond simply enduring their disease. The campaign inspired the public to support cancer research so that patients can live with and beyond cancer.

FORGING PARTNERSHIPS TO ADVANCE CANCER SCIENCE
In 2016, the Foundation continued its efforts to forge partnerships to advance cancer science and regulatory science and policy, innovative technologies, drug discovery, and clinical trial participation, crossing the gap between researchers and patients.

• Engaging with Silicon Valley. Through the visionary efforts of Tramore Lawrence J. Martin, MD, the Foundation facilitated a unique meeting between the AACR and leaders in Silicon Valley. The meeting brought executives from more than 50 technology companies together with life-sciences professionals and members of the cancer community to discuss ways to improve clinical trial participation, challenge the status quo, and seize opportunities in precision medicine.

• Advancing Precision Medicine. In November, the Foundation hosted the AACR-UCSF Precision Medicine Conference, which brought together leaders from academia and industry to discuss the latest advances and research findings in the field of clinical cancer care. The conference attracted more than 1,000 attendees from around the world—who were inspired by AACR past-president, Fellow of the AACR Academy, and UC San Francisco President, Mark L. Schapiro, MD, PhD, to expand the Foundation’s impact. The AACR-UCSF Precision Medicine Conference was held in San Francisco, CA.

At the 2016 Annual Meeting, the AACR announced the establishment of the AACR-Waun Ki Hong Award for Outstanding Achievement in Cancer Research. The award—which will recognize a cancer researcher under the age of 46 who has conducted highly meritorious laboratory, translational, or clinical cancer research achievements in the world—was named in honor of Waun Ki Hong, MD, AACR past-president, Fellow of the AACR Academy, and mentor to hundreds of cancer scientists. An AACR members and other members of the cancer community responded to the Foundation’s call to ensure that the legacy of the AACR-Waun Ki Hong Award would endure, raising $1,000,000 in only 15 months to support this award in perpetuity.

The AACR-Waun Ki Hong Award was announced at the 2016 Annual Meeting of the American Association for Cancer Research (AACR), held in San Antonio, Texas, on April 18-22, 2016.

AACR-WAUN KI HONG AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN CANCER RESEARCH

While progress against cancer depends on the generous support of the public, foundations, and corporate partners, members of the cancer research community also came together in 2016 to support the AACR mission—and to honor a distinguished colleague, mentor, and friend.
American Association for Cancer Research Annual Report 2016

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Every effort is made to acknowledge the generosity of our donors with accuracy. Please contact the AACR Foundation if you believe there is an omission or error related to your support.

Joseph DiMasi, Ph.D. (left) and AACR President Jose Baselga, MD, PhD, FAACR (right), present the 2016 AACR John and Elizabeth Leonard Family Foundation Basic Cancer Research Fellowship to Fides D. Lay, PhD (center). Through its partnership with the AACR, the Leonard Family Foundation has provided $150,000 since 2014 to support basic cancer research.

Joseph DiMasi, Ph.D. (left) and AACR President Jose Baselga, MD, PhD, FAACR (right), present the 2016 AACR-Incyte Corporation NextGen Grant for Transformative Cancer Research to Sophia Y. Lunt, PhD (center). In the first year of this partnership, Incyte provided more than $650,000 in funding to support cancer research.
In 2016, the AACR reported another year of positive financial growth. This financial stability enables the AACR to comprehensively meet the challenges of the cancer problem and respond to today’s exciting research opportunities. Operating revenues increased 10 percent to $87 million and total expenditures closely matched revenues. The net impact of revenues and expenses resulted in an operating surplus of $1.6 million. As outlined in this report, several major projects were launched in 2016, and the AACR was able to outperform the budget through successful programs, revenue growth, evaluation of expenses, and prudent financial management.

Non-operating activities are primarily related to long-term investments. The AACR’s investments provided strong returns in the amount of $3.5 million in a year of stock market volatility and economic uncertainty. The results of the combined operating and non-operating activities resulted in a surplus of $1.6 million, which enabled the AACR unrestricted net assets to grow to $60.5 million. This important source of income ensures continued investment in the programs that will accelerate progress toward the prevention and cure of cancer in accordance with AACR’s strategic plan.

The American Association for Cancer Research (AACR) is a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Contributions are tax-deductible to the extent permitted by law. The AACR’s IRS identification number is 16-1369140.
During the past year, AACR programs and initiatives have catalyzed groundbreaking cancer science for the benefit of patients. The AACR will expand its reach even further in 2017—marking milestones, moving into new geographic regions, and working to expedite the development of effective cancer treatments.

ACKNOWLEDGING THE AACR’S 110TH ANNIVERSARY
On May 7, 1907, eleven prominent scientists met at the Willard Hotel in Washington, D.C., to found the American Association for Cancer Research, the first organization in the world to focus on cancer. In 2017, the AACR will return to Washington to host its Annual Meeting and to celebrate 110 years of accomplishments and progress against cancer. History shows there is much to be proud of, but there is much work to be done to save more lives from cancer.

The AACR will commemorate this milestone at the Annual Meeting by updating the Landmarks in Cancer Research display that was produced during its Centennial celebration in 2007. The display will recognize the cumulative progress in the understanding and eradication of cancer by the global community of scientists, researchers, clinicians, and patient advocates.

The anniversary celebration will continue throughout the year, as the AACR looks back on past and looks forward to a future of continued advances against cancer.

EXPANDING INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATIONS: AFRICA AND SOUTH AMERICA
The AACR continues to foster excellence in cancer science around the world in 2017, bringing cutting-edge conferences to two new continents:

• Africa: The AACR International Conference on New Frontiers in Cancer Research. This conference, held in Cape Town, South Africa, was the first AACR meeting on the African continent. Under the leadership of cochairs Peter A. Jones, PhD, DSc, FAACR, and Frank McCormick, PhD, FAACR, the conference brought together basic, translational, and clinical cancer researchers working primarily in Africa with a special focus on cancers that have a high rate of incidence in the region.
THE AACR IN 2017: A VISION OF THE FUTURE


drugs with potential applications to childhood cancers. Under the leadership of chair Lee J. Helman, MD, the working group will convene a Pediatric Cancer Drug Development Subcommittee. In collaboration with the AACR Science Policy and Government Affairs Committee, this new subcommittee will address the scientific, policy, and legislative challenges facing the development of pediatric cancer treatments.

VISION 2020 STRATEGIC PLAN
Throughout the past year, the AACR Board of Directors and staff worked together to develop the AACR’s Vision 2020 Strategic Plan. Approved by the Board in November 2016, the plan set a course for the AACR’s growth and impact on cancer research, and it identified the following seven strategic priorities for the AACR through 2020:

1. To identify and foster innovative science that is of the highest priority and potential for impact in reducing cancer incidence, morbidity, and mortality
2. To become the primary educational resource for cancer scientists, the broader cancer community, and the public
3. To publish and disseminate high-quality cancer science worldwide
4. To meet the professional needs of members and increase international outreach and participation
5. To increase awareness of the AACR among the public
6. To serve as the authoritative voice for cancer research and thereby inform and influence science and public policy
7. To develop and implement a comprehensive financial plan that supports the strategic plan and achieves dynamic growth and increased impact

These priorities will inform the AACR’s actions for the next several years and will keep the AACR focused on the destination—prevention and cure of all cancers—that is at the heart of its mission. AACR members from across the spectrum of cancer science worked with patients, advocates, legislators, regulators, and the public to move toward that destination in 2016. As the focus turns to 2017 and beyond, the AACR will continue leading discoveries, targeting cures, and saving lives.

South America: AACR International Conference on Translational Cancer Medicine. In cooperation with the Latin American Cooperative Oncology Group (LACOG), the AACR will host its first-ever conference in South America. Co-chairs Carlos L. Arteaga, MD, FAACR, and Carlos Gil M. Ferreira, MD, PhD, will convene leading researchers from North, Central, and South America in São Paulo, Brazil, to address the challenges of bridging the gap between basic research and clinical care.

DRIVING DRUG DEVELOPMENT FOR PEDIATRIC CANCER
Since its establishment in 2011, the AACR Pediatric Cancer Working Group has promoted the prevention and cure of childhood cancers by promoting communication and collaboration among researchers in all sectors. In 2017, the working group will focus on accelerating the development of pediatric cancer drugs and expanding access to existing

São Paulo, Brazil
On the cover (clockwise from center):

**Retired Army colonel and prostate cancer survivor Jim Williams and his wife, Lois.** Featured in the Summer 2016 issue of *Cancer Today*, the AACR’s consumer magazine, Jim counsels recently-diagnosed prostate cancer patients and works with nonprofits to increase cancer screening and improve cancer care for racial and ethnic minorities.

**Acute lymphoblastic leukemia survivor Luke Theodosiades (center) with his brothers.** A featured survivor in the *AACR Cancer Progress Report 2016*, Luke received CAR T-cell therapy in May 2016 and a bone marrow transplant in August 2017, and he currently has no evidence of disease.

**AACR President (2016-2017) Nancy E. Davidson, MD.** Dr. Davidson is Executive Director of Oncology at the Fred Hutch/University of Washington Cancer Consortium, Seattle, Washington.

**AACR President (2015-2016) José Baselga, MD, PhD, FAACR.** Dr. Baselga is Physician-in-Chief at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York, New York.

**Papillary thyroid cancer survivor Cherry Sloan-Medrano.** Diagnosed with stage III papillary thyroid cancer in 2008, Cherry was treated successfully and now works to educate her community about cancer risk and prevention. Her story is featured in the Fall 2015 issue of *Cancer Today*.

**Former Vice President Joe Biden addressing the AACR Annual Meeting 2016.** In late 2015, Vice President Biden called for a “cancer moonshot... a national commitment to end cancer as we know it.” After President Obama appointed the vice president to lead the National Cancer Moonshot Initiative, AACR members and leaders worked in 2016 to shape and realize the vice president’s vision.

**Leiomyosarcoma survivor Nancy McGuire.** Diagnosed in 2009, Nancy has received a number of treatments over the past seven years, including one drug (trabectedin; Yondelis) that had just received FDA approval. Nancy is a featured survivor in the *AACR Cancer Progress Report 2016*. 