For more information on AACR’s Scientific Achievement Awards including eligibility criteria and nomination deadlines, visit AACR.org/SAA.
Since 1961, the AACR has presented hundreds of Prizes, Awards, and Lectureships to recognize the scientific achievements of scientists, clinicians, and physician-scientists who have collectively made significant contributions to the understanding, diagnosis, prevention, and treatment of cancer.

The AACR honors these outstanding individuals for their extraordinary accomplishments and for embodying excellence in cancer research.
AACR AWARD FOR LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT IN CANCER RESEARCH

Tony Hunter, PhD, FAACR
American Cancer Society Professor; Molecular and Cell Biology Laboratory; Renato Dulbecco Chair, Salk Institute, La Jolla, California

For his seminal discovery of tyrosine kinases and tyrosine phosphorylation of proteins that illuminated fundamental processes of cellular signaling and enabled the development of cancer therapeutics targeting these kinases. His basic biomedical research targeting tyrosine kinases has successfully been translated to nearly 40 tyrosine kinase inhibitors, clinically approved to treat and manage a multitude of cancers.
AACR AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN BASIC CANCER RESEARCH

Christina Curtis, PhD, MSc
Associate Professor of Medicine and Genetics; Co-Director, Molecular Tumor Board, Stanford Cancer Institute, Stanford, California

For her paradigm-shifting research, including her established Big Bang model that have explained how treatment-naïve cancers evolve in the absence of therapeutic influence. This fundamental milestone in cancer research has been further developed to explain the tendency that some cancers have to disseminate and metastasize, in turn improving the predictive power of emergent diagnostic approaches for early cancer and pre-cancer detection.
AACR AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN BLOOD CANCER RESEARCH

John E. Dick, PhD, FRS, FRSC, FAACR
Senior Scientist, Princess Margaret Cancer Centre; Director, Program in Cancer Stem Cells, Ontario Institute for Cancer Research (OICR); Canada Research Chair in Stem Cell Biology; Professor, Department of Molecular Genetics, University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario, Canada

For his groundbreaking discovery of leukemic stem cells and for developing the first hematopoietic xenograft assay using human hematopoietic cells transplanted into immune-compromised mice, a technique that has become the gold standard hematopoietic stem cell assay. His discovery of a leukemia stemness gene signature has since been used to predict survival rates and response to treatment and lays the groundwork for identifying actionable targets for drug development.
AACR AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN CHEMISTRY IN CANCER RESEARCH

Kevan M. Shokat, PhD
Professor and Chair, Department of Cellular and Molecular Pharmacology, UC San Francisco; Professor, Department of Chemistry, UC Berkeley; Investigator, Howard Hughes Medical Institute; San Francisco, California

For his seminal discoveries in the field of chemical genetics, solving the fundamental selectivity challenge for protein kinases by engineering a unique ATP binding pocket and matched chemical inhibitor to exploit and selectively target individual protein kinase. His breakthrough discoveries include the development of the first covalent inhibitors of KRAS G12C leading to clinical trials to target a once thought undruggable oncogene.
AACR DANIEL D. VON HOFF AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS TO EDUCATION AND TRAINING IN CANCER RESEARCH

Lee M. Ellis, MD
Professor; Ruben Distinguished Chair in Gastroenterology Cancer Research, Department of Surgical Oncology, Division of Surgery; Vice Chair Translational Medicine, SWOG, Portland, Oregon; Executive Director for Translational Research, Global Academic Programs, Department of Surgical Oncology; Professor, Department of Molecular and Cellular Oncology, The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, Texas

For his pioneering research on the biology and therapy of metastatic colorectal cancer and for identifying VEGF as an important mediator of colorectal cancer angiogenesis, growth and survival and a valid therapeutic target that is now standard of care for patients with such malignancies. Importantly, during his illustrious career, he has played a critical role in the training and education of a multitude of clinical fellows, laboratory investigators, clinical investigators, and junior faculty.
AACR DISTINGUISHED LECTURESHP IN BREAST CANCER RESEARCH

Helen M. Piwnica-Worms, PhD
Vice Provost of Science; Senator A.M. Aikin Jr. Distinguished Chair; Professor, Department of Experimental Radiation Oncology Division of Radiation Oncology, The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, Texas

For her groundbreaking studies elucidating the function and regulation of proteins involved in cell cycle and checkpoint control, for discovering mutations and epigenetic modifications with functional significance to the development and progression of invasive triple negative breast cancer (TNBC) and for identifying, characterizing and targeting tumor cells in treatment naïve TNBC resistant to front line chemotherapy and BRCA1/2 mutant tumors resistant to PARP inhibitors. Her landmark textbook discoveries enlist the identification of Wee1, a dual specific kinase that directly phosphorylates and inhibits Cdc2, Cdc25C, a dual-specificity phosphatase that dephosphorylates and activates Cdc2 and a novel pathway involving 14-3-3 proteins that prevents the nuclear accumulation of Cdc25C during DNA damage.
AACR DISTINGUISHED LECTURESHP ON THE SCIENCE OF CANCER HEALTH DISPARITIES

Graham A. Colditz, MD, DrPH, MPH
Niess-Gain Professor of Surgery; Chief, Public Health Sciences; Deputy Director, Institute for Public Health, Washington University, St. Louis, Missouri

For his seminal contribution to the field of cancer epidemiology and prevention, his efforts in eliminating health disparities, and his scientific investigations revealing increased risk of receptor negative, aggressive subtypes of breast cancer and excess risk in breast cancer in young African American women. With remarkable leadership he has spearheaded programs in colorectal and lung cancer screening and implementation science.
AACR DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

Raymond N. DuBois, MD, PhD, FAACR
Professor; Dean, College of Medicine at the Medical University of South Carolina; Director, MUSC Hollings Cancer Center, Charleston, South Carolina

For elucidating the role of cyclooxygenase 2 (COX-2) in colon cancer and the contributions of the lipid metabolite prostaglandin E2 (PGE2) to tissue inflammation in the etiology of colon cancer. His ground-breaking work led to the discovery of a COX-2 inhibitor that reduces polyp formation in patients with familial adenomatous polyposis. Collectively, he is recognized for his significant contributions to not only the cancer field at large, but also the AACR including his past AACR Presidency, Editor-in-Chief role on the journal Cancer Prevention Research, and his service as President and Chair of the AACR Foundation Board of Trustees.
AACR JAMES S. EWING-THELMA B. DUNN AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN PATHOLOGY IN CANCER RESEARCH

Elaine S. Jaffe, MD
NIH Distinguished Investigator, Laboratory of Pathology; Head, Hematopathology Section, Center for Cancer Research, National Cancer Institute, Bethesda, Maryland

For her groundbreaking modern approaches to the classification of lymphoid system neoplasms. An astute diagnostician, her clinical and investigational studies have been intertwined to enhance our understanding of tumors of the immune system by revolutionizing the integration of traditional pathological methods with immunologic and genomic approaches and describing multiple new disease entities that have resulted in pivotal changes to clinical practice and patient management.
AACR MARGARET FOTI AWARD FOR LEADERSHIP AND EXTRAORDINARY ACHIEVEMENTS IN CANCER RESEARCH

Levi A. Garraway, MD, PhD, FAACR
Executive Vice President; Head, Global Product Development; Chief Medical Officer, Roche/Genentech, South San Francisco, California

For pioneering and championing the application of genomics to cancer research, diagnosis, drug development, and treatment; including landmark discoveries that defined mechanisms of tumorigenesis, cancer progression, and therapeutic resistance. A world leader and visionary in the field, he has made crucial contributions to cancer precision medicine including the identification of numerous driver genes, clinical adaptation and implementation of tumor genomic profiling, characterization of resistance to multiple targeted therapies, and discovery of novel non-coding mutations in the telomerase gene promoter that represent hallmark genetic events in many cancer types.
AACR OUTSTANDING INVESTIGATOR AWARD FOR BREAST CANCER RESEARCH

Fabrice André, MD, PhD
Director of Research, Department of Medical Oncology, Gustave Roussy; Professor, Université Paris Saclay, Institut Gustave Roussy, Villejuif, France

For pioneering the field of precision medicine in breast cancer, implementing the concept of using real-time high throughput genomics analysis of cancer biopsies to identify potential therapeutic targets, exploring the potential of multigene sequencing for clinical use, and championing the targeting of rare genomic alterations in cancer such as Alpelisib, a PI3K inhibitor. He was the first to describe the existence of tumor-derived exosomes in humans and elucidated the role of Interferon signaling and T helper cells in mediating chemotherapy response and as markers of chemotherapy sensitivity.
AACR TEAM SCIENCE AWARD

The Institute of Cancer Research
and Royal Marsden Hospital
Breast Cancer Research Team

TEAM: (pictured left to right; top to bottom)

1. Alan Ashworth, PhD, FRS, FAACR
2. Judith Bliss, MSc
3. Mitchell Dowsett, PhD, FMedSci
4. Clare M. Isacke, PhD, FMedSci
5. Stephen Johnston, MA, PhD, MRCP
6. Christopher Lord, DPhil
7. Pascal Meier, PhD
8. Alistair Ring, MA, MD, FRCP
9. Ian Smith, MD, FRCP, FRCPE
10. Nicholas C. Turner, MA, MRCP, PhD, FMedSci
11. Andrew Tutt, MBChB, PhD, FRCR, MRCP, FMedSci
12. John Yarnold, MBBS, BSc, MRCP, FRCR

For seminal translational discoveries in breast cancer research that have led to significant improvements in diagnosis and treatment. This team has led the discovery of new therapeutic approaches and the biomarkers that identify the populations of patients that gain most benefit from them. Examples being PARP inhibitors, that have changed how patients and breast cancers with BRCA1/2 mutations are tested and treated, as well as development of aromatase inhibitors in estrogen receptor positive breast cancer and predictive biomarkers that have informed how systemic treatments may be selected, deescalated or adapted following evidence of therapeutic response or resistance. This effective team has also lead work that has fundamentally changed international radiotherapy dose fractionation to reduce treatment duration and characterized molecular changes occurring in breast cancer that contribute to metastatic colonization, resistance to cell death and vulnerability to targeted therapies.
AACR-AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY AWARD FOR RESEARCH EXCELLENCE IN CANCER EPIDEMIOLOGY AND PREVENTION

Susan E. Hankinson, ScD
Distinguished Professor of Epidemiology; Associate Dean for Research, School of Public Health Sciences and Health Sciences, University of Massachusetts Amherst, Amherst, Massachusetts

For her remarkable contributions to the fields of cancer epidemiology, biomarkers, prevention and the etiology of breast cancer and for leading the first large-scale blood and urine collections in women for biomarker discovery utilizing a special biospecimen collection protocol that corresponded to specific times in women's menstrual cycle. Her seminal work revealed profound insights on the association of sex hormones with breast cancer risk and has prompted the development of chemoprevention drugs in pre and postmenopausal women.
AACR-CANCER RESEARCH INSTITUTE LLOYD J. OLD AWARD IN CANCER IMMUNOLOGY

Ira Mellman, PhD, FAACR
Vice President of Cancer Immunology, Genentech; South San Francisco, California; Adjunct Professor, University of California, San Francisco, San Francisco, California

For paramount advances in cell biology including the discovery of endosomes, for applying these insights to understanding the immune response and demonstrating how dendritic cell maturation regulates the balance between immunity and tolerance. He has elucidated the mechanism of the PD-L1/PD-1 signaling pathway and the conceptualization of the Cancer Immunity Cycle, bringing atezolizumab to the clinic, and overseeing the discovery and development of iNeST-RNA, tiragolumab (anti-TIGIT), cobimetinib, mosunetuzumab, and a variety of other therapeutics currently in earlier stages of clinical investigation.
AACR-G.H.A. CLOWES AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING BASIC CANCER RESEARCH

Ronald M. Evans, PhD, FAACR
Professor and Director, Gene Expression Laboratory; March of Dimes Chair in Molecular and Developmental Biology, Salk Institute for Biological Studies, La Jolla, California

For elucidating the complete structure of the human glucocorticoid receptor, which led to the discovery of a nuclear receptor superfamily for steroids, Vitamins A and D, thyroid hormone, bile acids, fatty acids, and cholesterol metabolites. An authority on hormones, he has identified a myriad of primary nuclear receptors as targets for the treatment of many cancers including leukemia, lymphoma, breast cancer, prostate cancer, and pancreas cancer. Additionally, he has discovered a new class of PPAR delta drugs called exercise mimetics, which pharmacologically promote the benefits of fitness and thus has a broad impact in metabolic disease.
AACR-IRVING WEINSTEIN FOUNDATION DISTINGUISHED LECTURESHP

Craig M. Crews, PhD
John C. Malone Professor of Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology and Professor of Chemistry, of Pharmacology, and of Management; Executive Director, Yale Center for Molecular Discovery, Yale School of Medicine, New Haven, Connecticut

For excellence in drug discovery and development spanning from molecule to patient and his work on pharmacological modulation of protein turnover. Combining groundbreaking science with strong entrepreneurship, he has spearheaded new and revolutionary therapeutic approaches including the development of novel proteasome inhibitors and proteolysis targeting chimera (PROTAC) technology, enabling the drugging of cancer targets previously considered undruggable.
AACR-JOSEPH H. BURCHENAL
AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING
ACHIEVEMENT IN CLINICAL
CANCER RESEARCH

Patricia M. LoRusso, DO, PhD (hc)
Professor of Medicine (Medical Oncology); Professor of Medicine;
Associate Cancer Center Director, Experimental Therapeutics,
Yale School of Medicine, New Haven, Connecticut

For exemplary leadership in drug development and
translational cancer therapeutics and for her pioneering work
on early phase clinical investigation of novel therapies and
combination strategies for advanced cancers. Her unwavering
and inexhaustible efforts in the design, conduct, analysis,
and knowledge dissemination of early phase cancer clinical
trials have created paradigm shifts in the treatment of cancer
malignancies.
Robert A. Winn, MD
Director and Lipman Chair in Oncology, VCU Massey Cancer Center; Senior Associate Dean for Cancer Innovation and Professor of Pulmonary Disease and Critical Care Medicine, VCU School of Medicine, Richmond, Virginia

For outstanding leadership and exceptional efforts in studying lung cancer, addressing health disparities, and promoting community-based health care, his important advances in identifying Wnt7a as a tumor suppressor in lung cancer, and for defining the role of Wnt7 in epithelial mesenchymal transition, cellular polarity, and DNA methylation. His work has unlocked enhanced understanding of “non-canonical” Wnt contributions to lung cancer development and uncovered several new targets such as y-catenin, Dishevelled, and PRMT1, currently being evaluated as novel drug targets to treat lung cancer.
AACR-PRINCESS TAKAMATSU MEMORIAL LECTURESHP

René Bernards, PhD, FAACR
Founding member Oncode Institute; Co-founder Oncosence BV; Co-founder Qameleon Therapeutics BV; Senior staff scientist, Netherlands Cancer Institute, Amsterdam, Netherlands

For monumental contributions to establishing innovative strategies by which to categorize biomarkers of treatment response and effective treatment combinations, for pioneering the use of genetic screening tests to identify and stratify individuals at risk of developing breast cancer, and for employing functional genomic approaches to identify vulnerabilities of cancers that may be therapeutically exploited. He is also recognized for his unparalleled ability to foster and nourish collaborative global cancer research efforts.
AACR-ST. BALDRICK’S FOUNDATION AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN PEDIATRIC CANCER RESEARCH

David Malkin, MD, FRCPC
Senior Staff Oncologist, Division of Hematology and Oncology; Director, Cancer Genetics Program; Senior Scientist, Genetics and Genome Biology, SickKids Hospital, Toronto, Ontario, Canada

For his unrivaled, visionary, and paradigm-shifting holistic approaches to treating pediatric cancer, for discovering the link between germline mutations in the TP53 tumor suppressor gene and the Li-Fraumeni cancer susceptibility syndrome and establishing the “Toronto protocol” for tumor surveillance in Li-Fraumeni Syndrome. He initiated the first childhood cancer predisposition clinic, which has served as the gold-standard for the management of families with cancer predisposition syndromes, while spearheading cancer genomic efforts including sophisticated diagnostic, prognostic, and surveillance tools for the management of such patients.
AACR-WAUN KI HONG AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN TRANSLATIONAL AND CLINICAL CANCER RESEARCH

Daniel D. De Carvalho, PhD
Senior Scientist, Princess Margaret Cancer Centre, University Health Network; Associate Professor, University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario, Canada

For his groundbreaking work on the development and application of novel circulating tumor DNA methylome profiling approaches for cancer classification and early cancer detection, and for his pioneering discoveries concerning the epigenetic regulation of repetitive elements and downstream viral mimicry responses in cancer development and cancer therapy. He is also recognized for making the landmark discovery of the main anti-tumor mechanism of DNA demethylating drugs known as ‘viral mimicry’.
Martine F. Roussel, PhD, FAACR

Member, St. Jude Faculty; Endowed Chair in Molecular Oncogenesis; Chair, Erasmus University of Sciences, Paris, VII France and St. Jude Exchange Program; Professor, Department of Molecular Sciences, UT Memphis, Memphis, Tennessee

For pivotal and enormous contributions to the understanding of childhood brain cancers, especially medulloblastoma, specifically highlighting how developmental pathways and cell cycle regulatory proteins, including cyclin dependent kinases and their inhibitors, are capable of regulating central nervous system function and brain tumor initiation and progression.
PEZCOLLER FOUNDATION-AACR INTERNATIONAL AWARD FOR EXTRAORDINARY ACHIEVEMENT IN CANCER RESEARCH

Steven A. Rosenberg, MD, PhD, FAACR
Senior Investigator, Head, Tumor Immunology Section; Chief of Surgery, National Cancer Institute, Bethesda, Maryland

For pioneering the development of effective immunotherapies and gene therapies for patients with advanced cancers and being the first to introduce a foreign gene into a human and to successfully utilize T-cell receptors against melanoma and chimeric antigen receptors against lymphomas. He has identified somatic mutations as targets of T-cell immunotherapy and has demonstrated that administration of a combination of IL-2 and a lymphodepleting preparative regimen stimulates complete remission in metastatic melanoma.
THE VICTORIA’S SECRET GLOBAL FUND FOR WOMEN’S CANCERS MERITORIOUS AWARDS, IN PARTNERSHIP WITH PELOTONIA & AACR

Joan S. Brugge, PhD, FAACR
Louise Foote Pfeiffer Professor of Cell Biology, Harvard Medical School; Chair of Cell Biology, Harvard Medical School, Boston, Massachusetts

For her lifelong investigations dedicated to unraveling mechanisms of cancer initiation, progression, and drug resistance that contribute to human carcinogenesis, her isolation of the protein encoded by the src transforming gene of Rous sarcoma virus, and the use of three-dimensional culture conditions to reveal significant changes in the organization of normal tissue associated with cancer. Adamant in identifying vulnerabilities of tumor cells that can be targeted for therapeutic intervention, her work has provided invaluable insights into therapy resistance mechanisms and has led to the development of numerous strategies for overcoming drug resistance.
THE VICTORIA’S SECRET GLOBAL FUND FOR WOMEN’S CANCERS MERITORIOUS AWARDS, IN PARTNERSHIP WITH PELOTONIA & AACR

Susan M. Domchek, MD
Executive Director, Basser Center for BRCA; Director, MacDonald Women’s Cancer Risk Evaluation Center; Basser Professor in Oncology, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

For demonstrating that genetic testing for high penetrance cancer susceptibility genes can improve risk assessment, inform appropriate risk reduction strategies, and be used to develop targeted therapeutics, and for applying this paradigm to genetic information across the pathogenicity and penetrance spectrum. An international expert in the translation of genetic testing for cancer susceptibility, she has revolutionized the clinical care of patients in the areas of cancer prevention, early detection, and treatment and has shown that prophylactic salpingo-oophorectomy decreases the risk of breast and ovarian cancer and is associated with improved survival in BRCA1 and BRCA2 mutation carriers. She has also been instrumental in the development of PARP inhibitors and immunologic therapies as potential treatments for BRCA1/2 mutation-associated cancers of multiple types, including breast, pancreas, and ovarian cancer.
THE VICTORIA’S SECRET GLOBAL FUND FOR WOMEN’S CANCERS MERITORIOUS AWARDS, IN PARTNERSHIP WITH PELOTONIA & AACR

Karen H. Lu, MD
Professor and Chair, Department of Gynecologic Oncology and Reproductive Medicine; J. Taylor Wharton Distinguished Chair in Gynecologic Oncology; Co-Director, MD Anderson Clinical Cancer Genetics Program; Director, High Risk Ovarian Cancer Screening Clinic; Director, Uterine Cancer Research Program, University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, Texas

For her fundamental studies of endometrial cancer in Lynch Syndrome and defining criteria to identify and medically manage women with Lynch Syndrome and for leading efforts in the prevention of hereditary endometrial and ovarian cancers in Lynch Syndrome, the prevention of ovarian cancer in women with germline mutations of BRCA1 or BRCA2, and the prevention of sporadic endometrial cancer in obese women. Her innovative prospective national clinical trials have focused on the identification of tissue biomarkers and prevention of endometrial cancer in women with Lynch Syndrome, ovarian cancer screening in high-risk women, and use of the CA-125 algorithm for the early detection of ovarian cancer in low-risk women.
THE VICTORIA’S SECRET GLOBAL FUND FOR WOMEN’S CANCERS MERITORIOUS AWARDS, IN PARTNERSHIP WITH PELOTONIA & AACR

Lisa A. Newman, MD, MPH
Chief, Section of Breast Surgery, New York-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center; Leader, Multidisciplinary Breast Oncology Programs, New York-Presbyterian David H. Koch Center, Weill Cornell Medicine, New York, New York

For significantly advancing the understanding of the etiology of breast cancers in African and African American women through her innovative and groundbreaking international program focusing on the study of triple negative breast cancer in women with African ancestry. Her seminal work regarding the interplay of genetics and the social determinants of health continues to have a far-reaching global impact as her findings become translated into better treatment options for all women with triple-negative breast cancers.
THE VICTORIA’S SECRET GLOBAL FUND FOR WOMEN’S CANCERS MERITORIOUS AWARDS, IN PARTNERSHIP WITH PELOTONIA & AACR

Martine J. Piccart, MD, PhD, FAACR
Honorary Professor of Oncology, Université Libre de Bruxelles; Scientific Director, Institut Jules Bordet, Brussels, Belgium

For her visionary and unparalleled leadership in breast cancer clinical trial and drug development and for optimizing genetic profiling of breast cancer subtypes to enhance cancer diagnosis techniques and improve treatment strategies and regimens. Her paramount cancer research efforts have included the foundation of the Brussels-based Breast International Group (BIG) focused on fostering internationally collaborative clinical trials and the establishment of the translational cancer research-based organization, TRANSBIG.