

TESTIMONIALS FROM LONG-TERM MEMBERS



“The single most endearing memory is in the category of working with great colleagues and students during my career in academic and biomedical research. A near second is the knowledge that substantial parts of our published findings were influential in the development of regulatory standards for both safety and efficacy.”

Dr. Paul Forbes | AACR Member since 1974



“Some of my fondest memories of AACR involve meeting with friends and associates at the various venues. First, we would talk about our science, and the challenges of securing external funding for our various projects. Friendships expanded, and soon included opportunities to share meals, and get updates on our families and their activities. By attending AACR meetings over many years, I realized that there were many great doctors and scientists who had committed their whole careers to curing cancer. It has been a pleasure and an honor to be a member of this group.”

Dr. H. Terry Wepsic | AACR Member since 1974



“I believe the first AACR meeting I attended was in Atlantic City in 1968. It was a small meeting in a sleepy town, but the Boardwalk was a perfect place to establish lifelong collaborative relationships. The growth of AACR has been phenomenal! Over the years Marge Foti has engaged key members of the scientific community so that contemporary basic science foundations of innovations in cancer research were always represented, first at annual and then later specialized meetings. Actually, my first contact with Marge was when she was an editor at Cancer Research and I was a reviewer; it was only very recently that Marge shared her impressions of my reviews – ‘very detailed’.”

Dr. I. David Goldman | AACR Member since 1974



“Meeting attendance at meetings during the early years of the AACR was relatively small compared with today’s numbers and informal research discussions with the leaders in cancer research provided both potential future contacts and often helpful insights for a young investigator.”

Dr. Jerome W. Yates | AACR Member since 1974



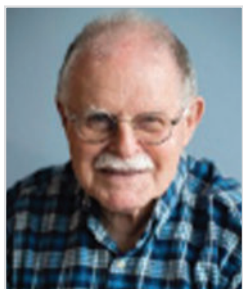
"I have been privileged and fortunate to have been engaged in the field of pediatric and young adult oncology for 5 decades, a period when the long-term survival of this patient population went from 30-40% to 85-95%. I marvel at the progress made from the days when my task as a physician was often to prepare children and their family for end of life to the present when we are largely preparing them for life after cancer."

Dr. Stuart E. Siegel | AACR member since 1974



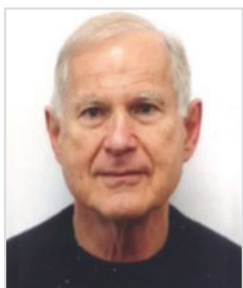
"As a lifetime pharmacologist, theoretical biologist, and cancer researcher, one of my fondest memories as an AACR member was publishing a major article in cancer research in 2006 about the quantitative determination of synergism. It has received 5,256 citations in 1,157 scientific journals internationally. Along with my theoretical paper, Chou and Talaly, Adv. Enz. Regal (1984), and Chou, Parmacol. Rev. (2006) has received 18,643 citations, including 1,243 citing patents. As a cancer researcher, I feel glad to have significantly contributed to scientific R&D in biomedical science and beyond. At age 85 in 2023, I am proud to have presented two abstracts at the AACR-NEI-EORTC conference on October 12 and 13, 2023, in Boston (Abs. #A-017 & Abs. #LB-B20)."

Prof. Ting-Chao Chou | AACR Member since 1974



"My first interaction with AACR was when I was a graduate student at McArdle Lab of the University of Wisconsin-Madison and presented a 10-minute talk at the annual meeting. I was very impressed with the wide variety of scientific disciplines presented and the exciting lectures presented. I continue to be impressed by the excellent science that relates to cancer."

Dr. William M. Baird | AACR Member since 1974



"I first became acquainted with the AACR through my PhD mentor, George Weber, and my Postdoc mentor, Alan Sartorelli, who were lifelong members and past-Presidents of AACR. Membership introduced me to influential members who were invaluable in supporting my research and in obtaining funding that gave my career a tremendous boost."

Prof. Robert Glazer | AACR Member since 1974

TESTIMONIALS FROM LONG-TERM MEMBERS *(cont'd)*



"I entered medicine before the discipline of oncology was established. Patients with renal cancer were cared for by nephrologists, of gastrointestinal cancer by gastroenterologists. If a tumor was resectable, it would be removed by a general surgeon. Radiation Therapy (not yet oncology) would irradiate tumors that were not resectable or as adjuvant therapy if local spread was suspected. There was no CT, MRI or PET scan for staging. The development of the specialty of oncology was a transforming event."

Dr. Marshall Lichtman | AACR Member since 1974



"Following my service in Vietnam, I began my fellowship in medical oncology under Dr. Vaitkevicius who instilled the values of team science and translational science. Upon returning home and being a veteran, I asked each new patient if they had served in the military. In the first year I encountered two veterans with soft tissue masses that were diagnosed as complex soft tissue sarcomas. Like these soldiers we were all exposed to dioxin (Agent Orange). I reported those two cases to the Veterans Administration in 1973. Those foundational pillars taught to me led to significant advances of bone and soft tissue sarcomas. We engaged in the development of neoadjuvant cytotoxic chemotherapy."

Dr. Laurence H. Baker | AACR Member since 1974



"My favorite memory early on was the fact that I seemed to know everyone at our annual meetings. It was fun going down an escalator and waving to everybody going up on the other side. Our major focus was where to meet for discussions, drinks, lunches, or dinners."

Dr. Richard E. Kouri, AACR Member since 1974



"Perhaps the greatest honor of my career occurred in 1993 when I was selected to give the Clowes Lecture at the Annual Meeting. That award, honoring a young investigator, said to me that my work was on the right track and instilled the confidence that I was contributing. The importance of AACR membership in my career is not unique but is an example of how peer groups provide encouragement to acknowledge that you are doing something right."

Dr. Stuart H. Yuspa | AACR Member since 1973



"My memories of the AACR go back to 1963 as a research technician at the Wistar Institute and a college student when I presented my first paper at the annual meeting of the AACR. It wasn't until my first academic appointment at the University of Colorado School of Medicine in 1973 when I presented a paper at the annual meeting that I decided to join the society which I felt was an important venue for presentation of my research. During these years I attended 16 AACR meetings and had the distinct pleasure of working with the Chief Executive Secretary Dr. Margaret Foti and the outstanding AACR staff as a faculty member for 33 years/course director (2 years) and PI of the AACR/NCI grant (10 years) in the Pathobiology Cancer Course (The Edward A. Smuckler Memorial Workshop)."

John M. Lehman, AACR Member since 1973



"I joined AACR for many reasons. First it was and still is the No.1 cancer research organization in the world. It was much smaller then and let me have contact and develop close friendships with truly outstanding individuals, including many important collaborations. Several have continued to be some of my treasured friends. I also have had some of the most enjoyable times of my life during some of the yearly meetings, which I have missed very few."

Dr. William F. Benedict, AACR Member since 1973



"I have been fortunate to work with wonderful colleagues on important projects at the NIH and various medical schools."

Dr. Herbert T. Abelson | AACR Member since 1973



TESTIMONIALS FROM LONG-TERM MEMBERS *(cont'd)*



"In addition to the outstanding science presented, my fondest memories of the annual meeting are catching up with all of the great friends I have made over the years. Besides the pandemic years, I have not missed an annual meeting in over 20 years."

Dr. W. Robert Bishop, AACR Member since 1989



"Started my research career in 1990s investigating prognostic and predictive value of disseminated tumor cells in bone marrow of cancer patients; presentations at AACR Annual Meetings were my career highlights at that time and provided a great platform to engage with researchers globally and exchange, years before email and internet connected the research community. This is when you realize that you grew older and have dear memories."

Dr. Stephan Braun | AACR Member since 1995



"As an AACR member, she is privileged to not only attend the AACR annual meeting and workshops, but also given the opportunity to submit her research for presentation, and sponsor lab members to present on meetings."

Dr. Zhong Chen | AACR Member since 1995



"I greatly value the opportunities provided to me in serving the AACR and the cancer community via the publications (editorial boards), committee service, and mentoring opportunities. But the major highlight of my career via the AACR has been the Vail Course and MCCR in Europe! Being a student at Vail was a tremendous opportunity and, in turn, allowed me to learn about clinical trials. In turn, I then became a mentor at the courses, and course co-director. The relationships built at these workshops are golden and I hope as a faculty member, I have been able to pay it forward."

Dr. Lee M. Ellis | AACR Member since 1991



"I joined the AACR when I was a Fulbright postdoctoral fellow that just arrived to the USA from Spain. When I attended my first AACR meeting, I was blown away by the number of cancer researchers, the depth of the presentations, and the community that welcomed me. I was excited to work along my fellow researchers to find treatments for patients. I had found the community that I belong to!"

Dr. Ester Fernandez-Salas | AACR Member since 1996



"I have been working in the field of Thoracic Oncology for more than 35 years overseeing the diagnosis and treatment of lung cancer changing fundamentally. Although we still have to go a long way to eradicate this disease our knowledge to proceed has been increased enormously. The AACR meetings were a source of information and fine discussions on new avenues in biology of lung cancer. AACR provided me with knowledge and a network to work together with other clinicians, investigators all over the world and pharmaceutical industries."

Prof. Harry J. M. Groen | AACR Member since 1996



"In 1995, I attended my first AACR meeting as a postdoctoral fellow. By attending the talks given at the plenary and meet-the-expert (sunrise) session, I learnt that the investigators, who came from different parts of the world, dedicated their lives for decades and invested their careers to fighting cancer. It was an inspiring and watershed movement in my career. I have no hesitation in saying that this first exposure to the AACR meeting inspired me to dedicate my career to cancer research."

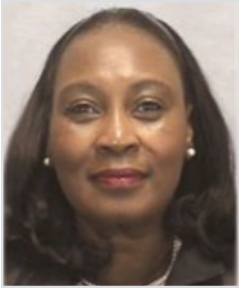
Dr. Upender Manne | AACR Member since 1995



"As a long-time member of the AACR, I have had the privilege of belonging to an organization committed to serving its members, that supports cancer research at all levels, is a strong advocate for cancer research funding and a fertile ground for training the researchers of tomorrow."

Dr. Emmanuel T. Akporiaye | AACR Member since 1990

TESTIMONIALS FROM LONG-TERM MEMBERS (cont'd)



"I joined the AACR as a student member at the recommendation of the late Dr. Veronica Maher, then Professor at Michigan State University. Over the last 25 years, I am happy to say with immense pride that this is without a doubt yet my favorite meeting. There are great scientists that are members of AACR and I enjoy listening to their presentations at the annual meeting. Scientists like Drs. Michael Caligiuri, John Carpten, and Wayne Bowen are all great speakers and mentors to minority students."

Dr. Eva McGhee | AACR Member since 1992



"AACR and The Endocrine Society have been my two professional 'home'. The friends and mentors I made through these societies have lasted a lifetime and have been instrumental not only in my career, but beyond. We meet outside of work and talk about family and life in general and how the blend of these with our careers makes for a challenging yet rewarding and satisfying life."

Dr. Jennifer K. Richer | AACR Member since 1997



"I have been a member of AACR since my postdoc, and throughout my career it has been a community that has supported me and given me chances to connect with likeminded colleagues."

Dr. Oliver Bogler | AACR Member since 1994



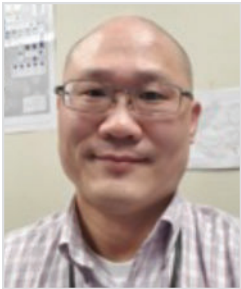
"Although I can't remember the first AACR meeting I attended, I do remember attending the back-to-back ASCO and AACR meetings for several years, and then in 1994 attending the first AACR annual meeting. Since then, I've enjoyed watching AACR grow from a prominently basic science organization to a translational/clinical science one undergirded by basic science. As a translational scientist, I have gained so much from attending these meetings that have enhanced my research over the years."

Dr. Clinton F. Stewart | AACR Member since 1995



“During my fellowship at MSKCC, I started my post-doc at the laboratory of Dr. Joseph Bertino, who served as an AACR president between 1995- 1996. I attended my first AACR and listened to his presidential symposium. It significantly impacted my career path as a physician-scientist, and I decided to continue this path throughout my life.”

Dr. Naoko Takebe | AACR Member since 1996



“While I am still a PhD candidate, I got an AACR Scholar-in-Training award. That gives me a boost and confidence to continue the cancer research career path. After I received my PhD, I got my first postdoctoral research fellowship (at NCI/NIH) through the career fair interviews during the AACR Annual Meeting!”

Dr. Robert Cheng | AACR Member since 1995



“I joined 42 years ago to be part of the cancer scientific community. Even as a clinical investigator, AACR is the place for cutting edge cancer biology and translational research.”

Dr. Richard L. Schilsky | AACR Member since 1981



“I attended my first AACR meeting in 1976 as a medical oncology fellow of Dr. James Holland, who was then one of the foremost clinical cancer researchers of his time. In those days, I was one of the 3 or 4 African American participants. I don’t think there were more than a handful of hundreds of attendees of the meetings overall. It used to be very special times.”

Dr. Christopher K. William | AACR Member since 1988



“One of my fondest memories was having dinner with Dr. Michael Colvin and his wife. Now I invite young scientists to dinner while at AACR and interact socially, so they feel a sense of connection.”

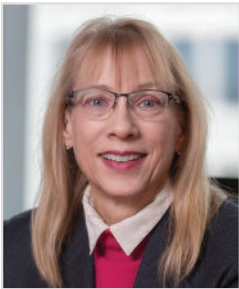
Dr. M. Eileen Dolan | AACR Member since 1988

TESTIMONIALS FROM LONG-TERM MEMBERS (cont'd)



"As an AACR member and a person who has worked in cancer research for more than 2 decades, I likely have a treasure trove of memories that have shaped my journey and contributed to the fight against cancer. These memories evoke a sense of pride, gratitude, and renewed determination to continue making a difference in my journey."

Prof. Sanjay Gupta | AACR Member since 1998



"Perhaps most fulfilling has been giving advice to younger women beginning their professional careers in cancer research. Being a Senior Editor for CCR for nearly 20 yrs was very fulfilling. Being Editor-in-Chief of MCT during these turbulent times in scientific publishing is challenging."

Dr. Beverly A. Teicher | AACR Member since 1981



"As many others, I attended AACR meetings as an early career member with the support of travel awards. The exposure and access to top science were invaluable at that early stage and I am grateful to AACR for providing these opportunities."

Dr. Ana I. Robles | AACR Member since 1992



"I have been a member of AACR throughout my career in academia and later in industry. AACR sees all aspects of research, basic, translational, and clinical, as having value no matter whether the PI is an academic, an industry scientist, or one of the many people who support the work in their respective institutions. The patient is pre-eminent in all that we do."

Dr. Lawrence S. Lamb | AACR Member since 1993



"It has been a privilege to be a member of an organization that balances both basic, translational, and clinical research. By working together as a multidisciplinary team, I believe we will continue to make major progress in the future."

Dr. Marcus O. Butler | AACR Member since 1998



"Loved every minute working in the field. The people, the science, the quest to find new things with the goal of helping people to live longer and healthier lives."

Dr. Edward R. Sauter | AACR Member since 1992



"It was a wonderful experience getting my PhD training at MD Anderson and getting to work with some of the true pioneers in the field of tumor biology and metastasis."

Dr. Robert J. Tressler | AACR Member since 1992