



# AACR SCIENTIFIC ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS 2024-2025

**AACR**

American Association  
for Cancer Research®



**ANNUAL  
MEETING  
2025 CHICAGO**



# AACR SCIENTIFIC ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS 2024-2025



For more information concerning AACR's Scientific Achievement Awards, including eligibility criteria and nomination deadlines, visit [AACR.org/SAA](https://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

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### **Rakesh K. Jain, PhD, FAACR**

Andrew Werk Cook Professor  
of Radiation Oncology (Tumor Biology)  
Harvard Medical School;  
Director, Edwin L. Steele Laboratories  
for Tumor Biology  
Department of Radiation Oncology  
Massachusetts General Hospital  
Boston, MA

For lifelong achievements and pioneering contributions that have transformed our understanding of the tumor microenvironment and its role in cancer progression and treatment. Most notably, his groundbreaking hypothesis of vascular normalization reshaped the use of antiangiogenic therapy and led to FDA-approved drug combinations. Dr. Jain's visionary integration of engineering and oncology has advanced drug delivery, immunotherapy, and cancer treatment strategies, while his celebrated mentorship and leadership have inspired countless scientists, clinicians, and physician scientists.



## AACR AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN BASIC CANCER RESEARCH

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### **Han Liang, PhD**

Barnhart Family Distinguished Professor in Targeted Therapies;  
Professor and Deputy Department Chair  
Department of Bioinformatics and Computational Biology;  
Professor  
Department of Systems Biology  
The University of Texas  
MD Anderson Cancer Center  
Houston, TX

For celebrated contributions to cancer bioinformatics and systems biology, advancing the understanding of the molecular basis of human cancers through multidimensional omics analyses, innovative computational tools, and systems-level approaches. Dr. Liang has led pioneering efforts in pan-cancer analyses, RNA editing in cancer, and tumor-microenvironment interactions, uncovering novel tumor-intrinsic and microenvironmental vulnerabilities and therapeutic strategies.





## AACR AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN BLOOD CANCER RESEARCH

*AWARD SUPPORTED BY ABBVIE*

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### **Louis M. Staudt, MD, PhD, FAACR**

Chief, Lymphoid Malignancies Branch;  
NIH Distinguished Investigator  
Center for Cancer Research  
National Cancer Institute  
National Institutes of Health  
Bethesda, MD

For pioneering contributions to the molecular classification of diffuse large B-cell lymphoma (DLBCL), including the identification of clinically distinct DLBCL subtypes through genomic profiling and the development of functional genomic screens to uncover new therapeutic targets. His discovery that activated B cell-like (ABC) DLBCL relies on chronic B-cell receptor (BCR) signaling led to the development of targeted therapies, including the BTK inhibitor ibrutinib, which significantly improved survival for patients with molecularly defined lymphoma subtypes. Dr. Staudt's continued leadership in refining lymphoma taxonomy and advancing novel combination therapies exemplifies the power of precision oncology in transforming patient outcomes.



## AACR AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN CHEMISTRY IN CANCER RESEARCH

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### **Shiva Malek, PhD**

Executive Vice President;  
Global Head  
Oncology Disease Area  
Novartis Biomedical Research  
Cambridge, MA

For invaluable contributions to the chemical biology of kinase signaling, including elucidating the complex dynamic effects of small-molecule inhibitors on the RAS→RAF→MEK pathway and their implications for cancer therapy. Dr. Malek is renowned for discoveries in RAF inhibitor-induced paradoxical activation, the kinase-independent role of BRAF in MAPK signaling, and the mechanisms of resistance to next-generation RAF inhibitors. Her innovative work has not only deepened the mechanistic understanding of oncogenic kinase networks but has also directly influenced the design of novel therapeutic strategies that continue to shape the future of targeted cancer treatment.





## AACR DANIEL D. VON HOFF AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS TO EDUCATION AND TRAINING IN CANCER RESEARCH

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### **Robert C. Bast Jr., MD**

Director, Translational Research Career Development;  
Harry Carothers Wiess Distinguished  
University Chair for Cancer Research;  
Professor  
Department of Experimental Therapeutics  
The University of Texas  
MD Anderson Cancer Center  
Houston, TX

For extraordinary leadership and enduring dedication to the education and training of generations of physician-scientists, clinician-investigators, and translational researchers. Dr. Bast's visionary mentorship and pioneering initiatives have profoundly shaped the careers of countless trainees, fostering their development into independent leaders in cancer research and clinical care. His commitment to advancing educational programs, from oncology fellowships to translational research training, has had a transformative impact on the field, ensuring the continued growth of a highly skilled and innovative cancer research community.



## AACR DISTINGUISHED LECTURESHIP IN BREAST CANCER RESEARCH

*AWARD SUPPORTED BY AFLAC, INC.*

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### **Steffi Oesterreich, PhD**

Professor and Vice-Chair,  
Department of Pharmacology and Chemical Biology;  
Director of Education,  
Women's Cancer Research Center;  
Co-Leader, Cancer Biology Program  
University of Pittsburgh Medical Center  
Hillman Cancer Center  
Pittsburgh, PA

For trailblazing research in invasive lobular carcinoma (ILC) that redefined it as a distinct biological entity, transforming its diagnosis and treatment. Her work has illuminated differences in nuclear receptor activity, metastatic patterns, metabolism, and immune modulation between ILC and invasive ductal carcinoma, laying the foundation for novel therapeutic strategies. Dr. Oesterreich's discoveries in estrogen receptor biology, endocrine resistance, and tumor metastasis have advanced precision medicine approaches, impacting both fundamental cancer science and patient care.



## AACR DISTINGUISHED LECTURESHIP ON THE SCIENCE OF CANCER HEALTH DISPARITIES

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### **Scarlett L. Gomez, PhD, MPH**

Professor, Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics;  
Co-Leader, Cancer Control Program  
UCSF Helen Diller Family Comprehensive Cancer Center  
San Francisco, CA

For visionary contributions that have illuminated understudied cancer disparities among Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander populations. Her leadership in advancing the understanding of structural and social determinants of cancer inequities and her transformative contributions to cancer surveillance, including the development of innovative epidemiologic tools and data systems has helped to inform cancer prevention and control efforts across diverse communities.



## AACR JAMES S. EWING-THELMA B. DUNN AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN PATHOLOGY IN CANCER RESEARCH

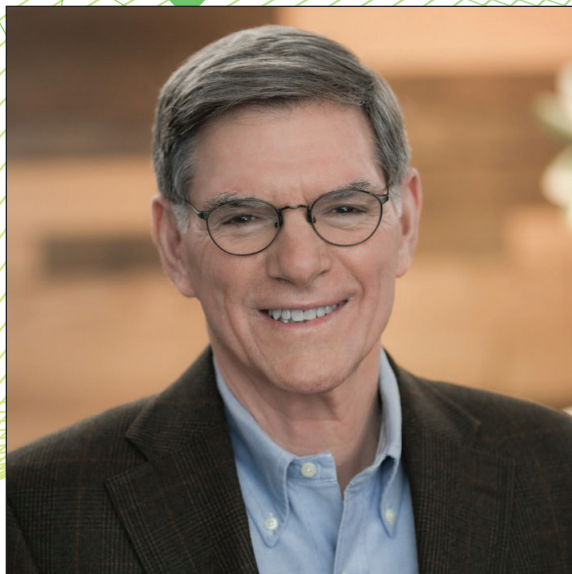
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### **Matthew L. Meyerson, MD, PhD, FAACR**

Charles A. Dana Chair in Human Cancer Genetics;  
Director, Center for Cancer Genomics  
Dana-Farber Cancer Institute;  
Professor of Genetics and Medicine  
Harvard Medical School  
Boston, MA

For significant discoveries including the identification of key oncogenic mutations and the development of genomic diagnostic approaches that have driven major advancements in cancer diagnostics and treatment. Dr. Meyerson's groundbreaking work on CDK and telomerase genes, and EGFR and RAF mutations, has shaped targeted therapies and his discoveries in cancer microbiomics and non-coding genome alterations have deepened our understanding of tumor biology. His leadership in large-scale cancer genomics initiatives and mentorship of the next generation of cancer researchers have had a lasting impact on the field, advancing precision oncology and molecular pathology.





## AACR MARGARET FOTI AWARD FOR LEADERSHIP AND EXTRAORDINARY ACHIEVEMENTS IN CANCER RESEARCH

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### **William N. Hait, MD, PhD, FAACR**

Executive Vice President;  
Chief, External Innovation and Medical Officer  
Johnson & Johnson (retired)  
Princeton, NJ

For extensive contributions to cancer pharmacology and drug discovery, including early recognition of adverse signal transduction events capable of driving malignant cell growth and advancements in the development of targeted therapies. His research on cyclic nucleotide phosphodiesterase, EF-2 kinase, and multidrug resistance mechanisms laid the foundation for transformative cancer treatments. As a quintessential leader in academia and industry, Dr. Hait developed New Jersey's first and only NCI-designated comprehensive cancer center and has spearheaded the development of oncology drugs that have improved outcomes for millions of cancer patients. His leadership and dedication to cancer research have profoundly shaped the field, inspiring countless generations of scientists, and have propelled significant innovation in the design and development of novel cancer treatments.



## AACR OUTSTANDING INVESTIGATOR AWARD FOR BREAST CANCER RESEARCH

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*AWARD SUPPORTED BY BREAST CANCER RESEARCH FOUNDATION*

### **Christina Curtis, PhD**

RZ Cao Professor of Medicine,  
Genetics and Biomedical Data Science;  
Director, Artificial Intelligence and Cancer Genomics  
and Breast Cancer Translational Research  
Stanford University  
Stanford, CA

For innovative work in identifying novel molecular subgroups of breast cancer, uncovering critical prognostic and predictive biomarkers, and developing innovative therapeutic strategies targeting these subgroups. Dr. Curtis's research has advanced the understanding of breast cancer evolution, particularly in high-risk populations, and developed multi-modal biomarkers to guide patient stratification and treatment, significantly impacting personalized oncology. Her work continues to shape the future of precision medicine in breast cancer, demonstrating the potential for tailored therapies to improve patient outcomes.



## AACR TEAM SCIENCE AWARD

AWARD SUPPORTED BY LOXO@LILLY

### MSK-IMPACT Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center

TEAM LEADER

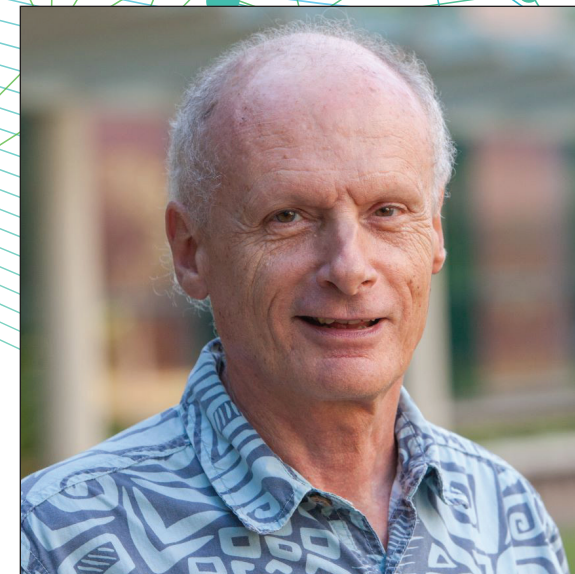
#### Michael Berger, PhD

Co-Director, Kravis Center for Molecular Oncology;  
Chief Attending, Clinical Computational Diagnostics Service  
Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine  
Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center  
New York, NY

For pivotal advancements in clinical genomic sequencing that have transformed oncology practice, clinical trials, and cancer discovery research. The MSK-IMPACT team developed and implemented a groundbreaking next-generation sequencing platform, thereby enabling the comprehensive molecular characterization of over 125,000 tumors and driving major insights into cancer biology, biomarker-driven therapies, and precision oncology. By integrating MSK-IMPACT into a CLIA-compliant laboratory from inception, the team ensured that each patient directly benefits from their genomic data, facilitating informed decision-making for the most appropriate treatment and/or clinical trial. Their innovative work has set new standards for the integration of genomic data into clinical care, propelled landmark clinical trials, and advanced data-sharing initiatives worldwide.

#### TEAM MEMBERS

Maria E. Arcila, MD  
Chaitanya Bandlamudi, PhD  
Ryma Benayed, PhD  
A. Rose Brannon, PhD  
Debyani Chakravarty, PhD  
Donavan T. Cheng, PhD  
Mark Donoghue, PhD  
JianJiong Gao, PhD  
David Hyman, MD  
Marc Ladanyi, MD  
Brian Loomis, PhD  
Diana Mandelker, MD, PhD  
Khedoudja Nafa, PharmD, PhD  
Kenneth Offit, MD, MPH  
Mark Robson, MD  
Nikolaus Schultz, PhD  
David B. Solit, MD  
Zsafia K. Stadler, MD  
Aijazuddin Syed, MS  
Barry S. Taylor, PhD  
Ahmet Zehir, PhD  
Liyang Zhang, MD, PhD



## AACR-AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY AWARD FOR RESEARCH EXCELLENCE IN CANCER EPIDEMIOLOGY AND PREVENTION

AWARD SUPPORTED BY THE AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY

### Loïc Le Marchand, MD, PhD, MPH

Professor, Population Sciences in the Pacific Program  
University of Hawai'i Cancer Center  
Manoa, HI

For revered contributions to cancer epidemiology and prevention, particularly through innovative research on genetic, behavioral, and environmental risk factors in multiethnic populations. Dr. Le Marchand's seminal work has elucidated racial and ethnic disparities in lung cancer risk and demonstrated the impact of visceral adiposity on cancer susceptibility. His leadership of the Multiethnic Cohort Study has fostered global collaborations that have and continue to shape equitable cancer prevention and screening initiatives, addressing health disparities across diverse populations.





## AACR-CANCER RESEARCH INSTITUTE LLOYD J. OLD AWARD IN CANCER IMMUNOLOGY

*AWARD SUPPORTED BY CANCER RESEARCH INSTITUTE*

### **Crystal L. Mackall, MD, FAACR**

Ernest and Amelia Gallo Family Professor  
and Professor of Pediatrics and Medicine;  
Founding Director, Stanford Center for Cancer Cell Therapy;  
Director, Parker Institute for Cancer Immunotherapy @ Stanford  
Stanford University  
Stanford, CA

For illustrious contributions to cancer immunotherapy, including enhancing CAR T-cell therapies, defining resistance mechanisms, advancing consensus treatment algorithms, and leading groundbreaking clinical trials that have fundamentally shaped the field. Dr. Mackall is internationally recognized for her seminal discovery of the role of IL-7 in T-cell homeostasis and her unwavering dedication to translational research, leading to the establishment of novel immunotherapeutic strategies for pediatric cancer patients.



## AACR-G.H.A. CLOWES AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING BASIC CANCER RESEARCH

*AWARD SUPPORTED BY LOXO@LILLY*

### **Karen H. Vousden, PhD, FAACR**

Principal Group Leader  
Francis Crick Institute;  
Former Chief Scientist  
Cancer Research UK  
London, United Kingdom

For discoveries in tumor suppressor biology and cancer metabolism, contributing to the understanding of metabolic adaptations that sustain cancer growth and identifying novel therapeutic vulnerabilities. Dr. Vousden's research elucidated the regulation of p53 by MDM2, defined key metabolic dependencies in cancer cells, and revealed the impact of dietary interventions on tumor progression. Her insights into reactive oxygen species in tumor development and metastasis have informed therapeutic strategies, while her scientific leadership and translational impact have and continue to advance cancer biology.



## AACR-IRVING WEINSTEIN FOUNDATION DISTINGUISHED LECTURESHIP

*AWARD SUPPORTED BY IRVING WEINSTEIN FOUNDATION*

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### **Daniel J. Drucker, MD**

Professor of Medicine  
Lunenfeld Tanenbaum Research  
Institute of Mt. Sinai Hospital  
University of Toronto  
Toronto, Ontario, Canada

For unparalleled scientific contributions to endocrinology, physiology, and metabolism, including the elucidation of glucagon-like peptide (GLP) function in modulating insulin secretion, blood glucose levels, appetite regulation, and nutrient absorption. Dr. Drucker's innovative research has laid the foundation for the development of novel therapeutics for diabetes, obesity, neurodegenerative diseases, short bowel syndrome, and inflammatory bowel and cardiometabolic disorders. His pioneering discoveries continue to shape metabolic research and may serve as a catalyst for future advancements in cancer biology and therapeutics.



## AACR-JOSEPH H. BURCHENAL AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN CLINICAL CANCER RESEARCH

*AWARD SUPPORTED BY BRISTOL-MYERS SQUIBB*

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### **Alice T. Shaw, MD, PhD**

Chief of Strategic Partnerships  
Dana-Farber Cancer Institute  
Boston, MA

For revered clinical and translational research that has transformed the treatment of oncogene-driven lung cancers. Dr. Shaw's groundbreaking work in defining ALK- and ROS1-positive lung cancers and leading the preclinical and clinical development of first and next generation inhibitors have established new standards of care, dramatically improving patient outcomes. Additionally, her research on resistance mechanisms and innovative strategies to overcome resistance have helped guide the development of targeted therapies across numerous other molecularly defined subsets of cancer.





## AACR-MINORITIES IN CANCER RESEARCH JANE COOKE WRIGHT LECTURESHIP

*AWARD SUPPORTED BY GILEAD AND KITE ONCOLOGY*

### **Christopher R. Flowers, MD**

Head, Division of Cancer Medicine;  
Chair and Professor  
Department of Lymphoma and Myeloma  
The University of Texas  
MD Anderson Cancer Center  
Houston, TX

For groundbreaking contributions to understanding racial disparities in lymphoma incidence, treatment, and outcomes, and particularly in underrepresented and understudied patient populations, which has led to the characterization of age-of-onset and survival disparities among lymphoma patients and the identification of predisposing genetic abnormalities such as SETD2 mutations in African American patients. Further, Dr. Flowers' steadfast collaborative leadership in outcomes research and cohort studies including the Lymphoma Epidemiology of Outcomes (LEO) study has resulted in the creation of the largest, most representative lymphoma patient dataset in the United States that continues to support research that directly informs equity-focused clinical trials.



## AACR-PRINCESS TAKAMATSU MEMORIAL LECTURESHIP

*AWARD SUPPORTED BY THE PRINCESS TAKAMATSU  
CANCER RESEARCH FUND*

### **Ronald A. DePinho, MD, FAACR**

Harry Graves Burkhart III Distinguished  
University Chair in Cancer Biology;  
Professor, Department of Cancer Biology;  
Past President  
The University of Texas  
MD Anderson Cancer Center  
Houston, TX

For groundbreaking contributions to telomere biology in cancer and aging, including the creation of the first telomerase knockout mouse, which demonstrated how telomere dysfunction links cancer and aging. Dr. DePinho's pioneering mouse models established concepts such as tumor maintenance, collateral lethality, and synthetic essentiality, shaping cancer target discovery and therapeutic strategies. His work in pancreatic, colorectal, prostate, and brain cancers anticipated mechanisms of resistance, guiding the development of novel treatments. His discovery of the reversibility of aging and the identification of telomerase as a master regulator of aging-related genes have opened therapeutic avenues aimed at enhancing health-span and treating aging and age-associated diseases.





## AACR-ST. BALDRICK'S FOUNDATION AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN PEDIATRIC CANCER RESEARCH

*AWARD SUPPORTED BY THE ST. BALDRICK'S FOUNDATION*

### **Charles G. Mullighan, MBBS (Hons), MSc, MD**

Member and Division Director of Research  
Department of Pathology;  
Co-Leader, Hematological Malignancies Program;  
Senior Deputy Director, St. Jude Comprehensive Cancer Center;  
Director, Center of Excellence for Leukemia Studies;  
Medical Director, St. Jude Biorepository;  
William E. Evans Endowed Chair  
St. Jude Children's Research Hospital  
Memphis, TN

For groundbreaking genomic discoveries that have reshaped the classification, diagnosis, and treatment of childhood acute lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL). Dr. Mullighan's seminal research has defined novel ALL subtypes, identified key genomic drivers of disease, and established precision medicine approaches that have transformed risk stratification and therapeutic strategies. His groundbreaking studies of BCR::ABL1-like ALL led to the implementation of sequencing-based diagnostics and targeted kinase inhibitor therapies, dramatically improving outcomes for high-risk patients. Moreover, his work on clonal evolution and relapse has provided fundamental insights into treatment resistance, informing strategies to prevent disease recurrence.



## AACR-WAUN KI HONG AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN TRANSLATIONAL AND CLINICAL CANCER RESEARCH

*AWARD SUPPORTED BY WAUN KI HONG ENDOWMENT FUND*

### **Toni K. Choueiri, MD**

Director, Lank Center for Genitourinary Oncology  
Dana-Farber Cancer Institute;  
Co-Leader, Kidney Cancer Program  
Dana-Farber/Harvard Cancer Center;  
Jerome and Nancy Kohlberg Professor of Medicine  
Harvard Medical School  
Boston, MA

For transformative advancements in the treatment of renal cell carcinoma (RCC), thereby significantly extending patient survival rates for those with metastatic and high-risk disease. Dr. Choueiri has led paradigm-shifting clinical trials that resulted in FDA approval of multiple novel therapies, including tyrosine kinase inhibitors, immune checkpoint inhibitors, HIF-2 $\alpha$  inhibitors and personalized cancer vaccines in RCC. His translational research has uncovered critical biomarkers of response and toxicity, in turn expanding the understanding of tumor immunogenicity, and informing precision medicine approaches in kidney cancer.





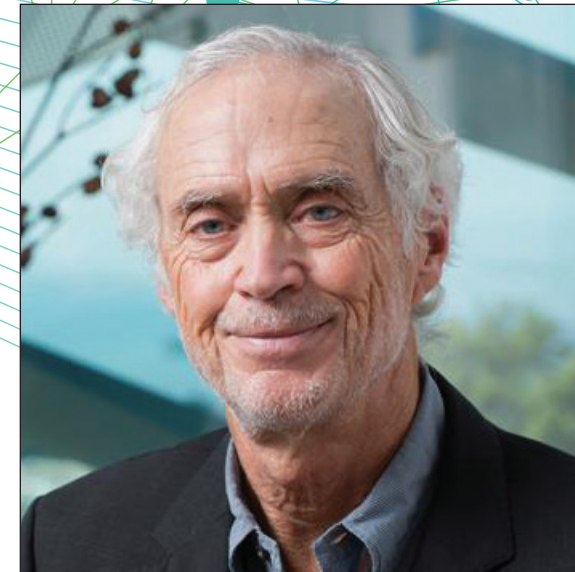
## AACR-WOMEN IN CANCER RESEARCH CHARLOTTE FRIEND LECTURESHIP

*AWARD SUPPORTED BY GILEAD AND KITE ONCOLOGY*

### **Shelley L. Berger, PhD, FAACR**

Daniel S. Och University Professor;  
Founder and Director, Epigenetics Institute;  
Faculty Member  
Departments of Cell and Developmental Biology and Genetics  
Perelman School of Medicine;  
Department of Biology  
School of Arts and Sciences;  
Co-Director, Tumor Biology Program  
Abramson Cancer Center  
University of Pennsylvania  
Philadelphia, PA

For fundamental discoveries in cancer epigenetics, including how histone modifications and transcription factors regulate cancer, aging, and T cell function. Dr. Berger's groundbreaking research has elucidated key mechanisms of p53 regulation, chromatin remodeling, and immune cell epigenetics, advancing the scientific understanding of cancer biology and therapeutic strategies. She is also recognized for her transformative leadership in mentoring the next generation of scientists, expanding opportunities for researchers from all backgrounds, and shaping national policies to strengthen the biomedical workforce.



## PEZCOLLER FOUNDATION-AACR INTERNATIONAL AWARD FOR EXTRAORDINARY ACHIEVEMENT IN CANCER RESEARCH

*AWARD SUPPORTED BY THE PEZCOLLER FOUNDATION*

### **Douglas Hanahan, PhD, FAACR**

Ludwig Distinguished Scholar  
Lausanne Branch  
Ludwig Institute for Cancer Research  
Lausanne, Switzerland

For pioneering the engineering of mouse models of tumorigenesis that uncovered mechanisms of stepwise cancer progression involving interactions among diverse cells in the tumor microenvironment; and for advancing mechanism-guided therapeutic targeting in preclinical trials, revealing treatment benefits and adaptive resistance, thereby informing innovative hallmark co-targeting strategies to prolong treatment efficacy.



## AACR ENDURING IMPACT AWARD FOR TRANSFORMATIVE SERVICE TO CANCER SCIENCE AND MEDICINE

### **Richard Pazdur, MD**

Director, Oncology Center of Excellence  
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research  
U.S. Food and Drug Administration  
Silver Spring, MD

For profound contributions to cancer science and medicine through his 25 years at the Food and Drug Administration, whereby he accelerated the development of novel cancer therapeutics and pioneered integrated regulatory approaches, effectively enhancing cross-center coordination of oncology product clinical reviews and fundamentally improving outcomes for cancer patients.



## AACR JUNE L. BIEDLER PRIZE FOR CANCER JOURNALISM **TELEVISION/RADIO/PODCAST CATEGORY**

### **Giulia Gazetta Scarano**

Journalist  
*Repórter Record  
Investigação*  
Sao Paulo, Brazil,  
South America

### **Marcela Varasquim, BJ, MJ**

TV Reporter  
Record TV  
*Repórter Record  
Investigação*  
Sao Paulo, Brazil,  
South America

### **Larissa Werren**

Journalist and Screenwriter  
Record TV  
*Repórter Record  
Investigação*  
Sao Paulo, Brazil,  
South America

*“O Câncer nas Mulheres da Amazônia - Cancer in Amazonian Women - RECORD TV”*





AACR JUNE L. BIEDLER PRIZE  
FOR CANCER JOURNALISM  
**ONLINE/MULTIMEDIA CATEGORY**

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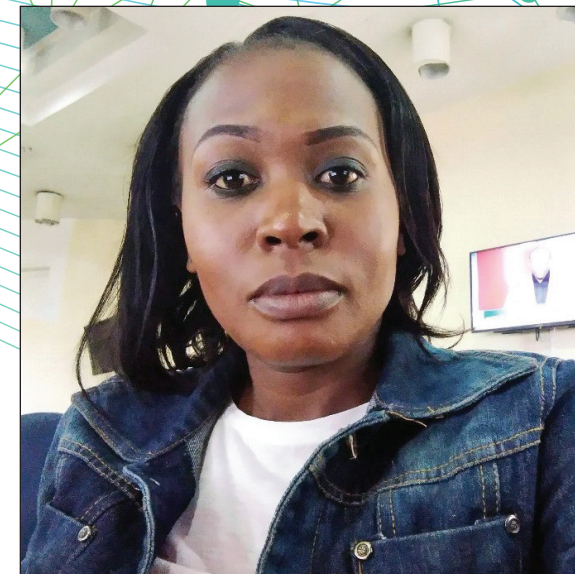
**Teresa Firmino**

Science Editor  
*Público*  
Lisbon, Portugal, Europe

*"Farewell, My Stomach"*

**Joana Martins  
Gonçalves, BSc**

Multimedia Journalist  
*Público*  
Lisbon, Portugal, Europe



AACR JUNE L. BIEDLER PRIZE  
FOR CANCER JOURNALISM  
**NEWSPAPER CATEGORY**

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**Pauline Ongaji Ogada**

Multimedia Science and Gender Journalist  
Nation Media Group  
*Nation*  
Nairobi, Kenya, Africa

*"Fighting Stigma, Fighting Cancer: The Rising Threat of Male Breast Cancer in Kenya"*



AACR JUNE L. BIEDLER PRIZE  
FOR CANCER JOURNALISM  
**ONLINE/MULTIMEDIA CATEGORY**

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**Kamala Thiagarajan**

Freelance Science Journalist  
*National Public Radio (NPR) News*  
Madurai, India, Asia

*"Women Who are Blind Play a Critical Role in Identifying Breast Cancers"*



AACR JUNE L. BIEDLER PRIZE  
FOR CANCER JOURNALISM  
**MAGAZINE CATEGORY**

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**Jyoti S. Madhusoodanan**

Freelance Science Journalist  
*Scientific American*  
Portland, Oregon, United States, North America

*"Targeting Cancer, Sparing Patients"*





**AACR JUNE L. BIEDLER PRIZE  
FOR CANCER JOURNALISM  
ONLINE/MULTIMEDIA CATEGORY**

**Rasha Salman Mohammed Abu Jalal, BJ**

Journalist

*The New Arab*

Gaza, Palestine, Asia

*"Undetected and Untreated Amid War: Gaza's Women are Suffering in Silence this Breast Cancer Awareness Month"*

**AACR SCIENTIFIC ACHIEVEMENT  
AWARD SUPPORTERS**

**AACR** American Association  
for Cancer Research®

**abbvie**

**Aflac**

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Cancer  
Society®**

**BCRF** BREAST  
CANCER  
RESEARCH  
FOUNDATION

**Bristol Myers Squibb™**

**CRI™**

**Fondazione  
Pezcoller**

**GILEAD**

**Kite**

**Irving Weinstein  
Foundation**

**June L. Biedler  
Endowment Fund**

**Lilly**  
A MEDICINE COMPANY

公益財団法人 高松宮妃癌研究基金  
Princess Takamatsu Cancer Research Fund

**St. Baldrick's  
FOUNDATION**

**CONQUER  
KIDS'  
CANCER**

**Waun Ki Hong  
Endowment  
Fund**

# AACR SCIENTIFIC ACHIEVEMENT AWARD DESCRIPTIONS

## AACR AWARD FOR LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT IN CANCER RESEARCH

This award was established to honor individuals who have made significant fundamental contributions to cancer research, either through a single scientific discovery or a collective body of work, that must have had a lasting impact on the cancer field and must have demonstrated a lifetime commitment to progress against cancer.

## AACR AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN BASIC CANCER RESEARCH

This award recognizes an early-career investigator for meritorious achievements in basic cancer research.

## AACR AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN BLOOD CANCER RESEARCH

*AWARD SUPPORTED BY ABBVIE*

This award recognizes an individual on the basis of their meritorious achievements and contributions to any aspect of blood cancer research.

## AACR AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN CHEMISTRY IN CANCER RESEARCH

This award is presented for outstanding, novel, and significant chemistry research that has led to important contributions in basic cancer research, translational cancer research, cancer diagnosis, the prevention of cancer, or the treatment of patients with cancer.

## AACR DANIEL D. VON HOFF AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS TO EDUCATION AND TRAINING IN CANCER RESEARCH

This award is intended to honor an individual in any subfield or sector of cancer research and cancer-related sciences who has contributed significantly to the education and training of cancer researchers and other professionals at all career levels, especially of early-career and early-stage investigators.

## AACR DISTINGUISHED LECTURESHIP IN BREAST CANCER RESEARCH

*AWARD SUPPORTED BY AFLAC, INC.*

This award recognizes outstanding science that has inspired, or has the potential to inspire, new perspectives on the etiology, diagnosis, treatment, or prevention of breast cancer.

## AACR DISTINGUISHED LECTURESHIP ON THE SCIENCE OF CANCER HEALTH DISPARITIES

This award recognizes an investigator whose novel and significant work has had or may have a far-reaching impact on the etiology, detection, diagnosis, treatment, or prevention of cancer health disparities.

## AACR JAMES S. EWING-THELMA B. DUNN AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN PATHOLOGY IN CANCER RESEARCH

This award, named for the AACR's first President (Ewing) and first female President (Dunn), both of who were pathologists, serves to recognize and celebrate pathologists who have significantly contributed to advancing cancer research, diagnosis, treatment, and prevention.

## AACR MARGARET FOTI AWARD FOR LEADERSHIP AND EXTRAORDINARY ACHIEVEMENTS IN CANCER RESEARCH

This award recognizes a true champion of cancer research whose leadership and extraordinary achievements in cancer research have had a major impact on the field.

## AACR OUTSTANDING INVESTIGATOR AWARD FOR BREAST CANCER RESEARCH

*AWARD SUPPORTED BY BREAST CANCER RESEARCH FOUNDATION*

This award recognizes an investigator whose novel and significant work has had or may have a far-reaching impact on the etiology, detection, diagnosis, treatment, or prevention of breast cancer. Candidates must have not yet reached 50 years of age at the time of the award presentation.

## AACR TEAM SCIENCE AWARD

*AWARD SUPPORTED BY LOXO@LILLY*

This award recognizes an outstanding interdisciplinary research team for their innovative and meritorious science that has advanced or may advance our fundamental knowledge of cancer, or a team that has applied existing knowledge to advancing the detection, diagnosis, prevention, or treatment of cancer.

## AACR-AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY AWARD FOR RESEARCH EXCELLENCE IN CANCER EPIDEMIOLOGY AND PREVENTION

*AWARD SUPPORTED BY THE AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY*

This award recognizes outstanding research accomplishments in cancer epidemiology, biomarkers, and prevention.





## AACR-CANCER RESEARCH INSTITUTE LLOYD J. OLD AWARD IN CANCER IMMUNOLOGY

*AWARD SUPPORTED BY CANCER RESEARCH INSTITUTE*

This award recognizes an active scientist whose outstanding and innovative research has had a major impact on the cancer field and has the potential to stimulate new directions in cancer immunology.

## AACR-G.H.A. CLOWES AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING BASIC CANCER RESEARCH

*AWARD SUPPORTED BY LOXO@LILLY*

This award is intended to recognize an individual who has made outstanding recent accomplishments in basic cancer research.

## AACR-IRVING WEINSTEIN FOUNDATION DISTINGUISHED LECTURESHIP

*AWARD SUPPORTED BY IRVING WEINSTEIN FOUNDATION*

This award acknowledges an individual whose outstanding personal innovation in science and whose position as a thought leader in fields relevant to cancer research has the potential to inspire creative thinking and new directions in cancer research. The recipient is selected by the AACR President.

## AACR-JOSEPH H. BURCHENAL AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN CLINICAL CANCER RESEARCH

*AWARD SUPPORTED BY BRISTOL-MYERS SQUIBB*

This award recognizes outstanding achievements in clinical cancer research.

## AACR-MINORITIES IN CANCER RESEARCH JANE COOKE WRIGHT LECTURESHIP

*AWARD SUPPORTED BY GILEAD AND KITE ONCOLOGY*

This lectureship recognizes an outstanding scientist who has made meritorious contributions to the field of cancer research and who has, through leadership or by example, furthered the advancement of minority investigators in cancer research.

## AACR-PRINCESS TAKAMATSU MEMORIAL LECTURESHIP

*AWARD SUPPORTED BY THE PRINCESS TAKAMATSU CANCER RESEARCH FUND*

This award recognizes an individual scientist whose novel and significant work has had or may have a far-reaching impact on the detection, diagnosis, treatment, or prevention of cancer, and who embodies the dedication of Princess Takamatsu to multinational collaborations.



## AACR-ST. BALDRICK'S FOUNDATION AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN PEDIATRIC CANCER RESEARCH

*AWARD SUPPORTED BY THE ST. BALDRICK'S FOUNDATION*

This award recognizes an individual in any sector who has significantly contributed to any area of pediatric cancer research, resulting in the fundamental improvement of the understanding and/or treatment of pediatric cancer.

## AACR-WAUN KI HONG AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN TRANSLATIONAL AND CLINICAL CANCER RESEARCH

*AWARD SUPPORTED BY WAUN KI HONG ENDOWMENT FUND*

This award recognizes a worthy cancer researcher who has conducted highly meritorious translational and clinical cancer research anywhere in the world and who has not yet reached 51 years of age at the time of the award presentation.

## AACR-WOMEN IN CANCER RESEARCH CHARLOTTE FRIEND LECTURESHIP

*AWARD SUPPORTED BY GILEAD AND KITE ONCOLOGY*

This award is presented to an outstanding scientist who has made meritorious contributions to the field of cancer research and who has, through leadership or by example, furthered the advancement of women in science.


## PEZCOLLER FOUNDATION-AACR INTERNATIONAL AWARD FOR EXTRAORDINARY ACHIEVEMENT IN CANCER RESEARCH

*AWARD SUPPORTED BY THE PEZCOLLER FOUNDATION*

The prestigious Pezcoller Foundation-AACR International Award for Extraordinary Achievement in Cancer Research was established in 1997 to recognize a scientist of international renown who has made a major scientific discovery in basic cancer research or who has made significant contributions to translational cancer research.

## AACR JUNE L. BIEDLER PRIZE FOR CANCER JOURNALISM RECIPIENTS

This prize showcases outstanding examples of cancer journalism and recognizes individual professional journalists who have produced accurate, informative, and compelling stories that enhance the public's understanding of cancer, cancer research, cancer advocacy, or cancer policy.

The background features a complex, abstract design. On the left, a series of thin, curved lines in shades of blue, green, and yellow flow from the top left towards the bottom right, creating a sense of movement. Overlaid on these lines is a network of nodes, represented by small circles in various colors (blue, green, yellow, and teal). These nodes are interconnected by thin lines, forming a web-like structure that extends across the right side of the image. The overall aesthetic is scientific and modern.

For more information concerning  
AACR's Scientific Achievement Awards,  
including eligibility criteria, scan the  
QR code or visit **AACR.org/SAA**.

**Call for Nominations Deadline:** June 30, 2025







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