2024

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

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Professor Alessio Pezcoller was born on April 23, 1896 in Rovereto, a small Northern Italian town, located just a few kilometers from Trento, the capital city of the Trentino province and location of the historic sixteenth century Trento Council.

Shortly after his graduation from Florence University where he earned a university degree in medicine in 1921, Professor Pezcoller moved to the University of Milan where he studied within the Surgical School, which was chaired by one of the most highly reputed surgeons of the time, Professor Mario Donati. In Milan, Professor Pezcoller qualified for university teaching in surgical pathology, clinical surgery, and operating medicine. In the mid-1930’s, upon Professor Donati’s departure from the University of Milan, Professor Pezcoller transitioned to Santa Chiara Hospital in Trento where he assumed the position of Chief Surgeon in 1937. He would continue working at Santa Chiara Hospital for the next thirty years.

During the early years of his time at Santa Chiara Hospital, Professor Pezcoller specialized in general abdominal surgeries and neurosurgery. He was also instrumental in conducting many surgeries that were needed as a result of various injuries that soldiers and civilians would incur as a result of World War II. Due to the high demand for his time and the need for his expertise during this difficult period of history, Professor Pezcoller opted to live within the hospital so that he could be nearby and available should a surgery be needed for a patient. It was also during this tumultuous and formative time that he conceptualized and developed his idea to form the Pezcoller Foundation, with the mission to promote biomedical research intended to decipher the fundamental mechanisms of human disease.

Upon his retirement in 1966, Professor Pezcoller vehemently dedicated his time, energy, and life to achieving his goal of establishing the Pezcoller Foundation. He would continue to shape and lead the Pezcoller Foundation and its mission until his death in January of 1993 at the age of 97.
PEZCOLLER FOUNDATION

PEZCOLLER FOUNDATION HISTORY

The Pezcoller Foundation is a non-profit organization established in Trento, Italy in 1980 by Professor Alessio Pezcoller (1896-1993), former Chief Surgeon at Santa Chiara Hospital in Trento, Italy. The Pezcoller Foundation’s mission is aimed at promoting biomedical research in the field of cancer and pursues its institutional aims through:

INTERNATIONAL AWARDS
• The Pezcoller Foundation-AACR International Award for Extraordinary Achievement in Cancer Research
• The Pezcoller Foundation–EACR Cancer Research Awards (for female and early career researchers)

EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES
• The Pezcoller Foundation Symposia
• The Pezcoller Foundation Seminars
• The Pezcoller Foundation Lectures

RESEARCH SUPPORT FOR YOUNG RESEARCHERS
• The Pezcoller Foundation-Italian Cancer Society Fellowships and Research Grants
• The Pezcoller Foundation-Scholar-in-Training Awards
• The Pezcoller Foundation- Trento University PhD Fellowships

PEZCOLLER FOUNDATION GOVERNANCE

The Pezcoller Foundation is governed by a President and a Board of Directors who serve the Pezcoller Foundation on a voluntary basis. All associated terms of service extend for a period of five years. The Past Presidents of the Pezcoller Foundation include: Renato Vinante (1980-1986), Giustiniano de Pretis (1986-1988), Aimone Sordo (1988-1996), Pietro Monti (1996-2001), Gios Bernardi (2001-2011), and Davide Bassi (2011-2016). The current President is Enzo Galligioni, MD, a medical oncologist and former Head of Medical Oncology at the Santa Chiara Hospital in Trento, Italy (1996-2016) where he was involved in both clinical and research activities. Since his retirement in 2016, he has been primarily involved in Pezcoller Foundation activities.
Once formed, the Pezcoller Foundation initially established a biennial International Award to recognize excellence in cancer research. This award was given to Dr. Vincent T. DeVita, Jr. (1988), Dr. Maurice Tubiana (1991), Dr. Bert Vogelstein (1993), and Sir Paul M. Nurse (1995) who subsequently won the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine in 2001.
PEZCOLLER FOUNDATION - AACR PARTNERSHIP

In 1997, a strategic partnership was launched between the Pezcoller Foundation and the AACR. As outlined within the formal partnership agreement executed on April 13, 1997, the award was to be named the: PEZCOLLER FOUNDATION-AACR INTERNATIONAL AWARD FOR CANCER RESEARCH.

On April 16, 2018, the formal partnership agreement was renewed and the award name was changed to the: PEZCOLLER FOUNDATION-AACR INTERNATIONAL AWARD FOR EXTRAORDINARY ACHIEVEMENT IN CANCER RESEARCH.

This prestigious award is accompanied by a prize of €75,000, has been annually awarded since 1997, and continues to build upon the tradition of recognizing outstanding cancer science. Twenty-four premier scientists have received the award thus far. The rigorous award nomination and selection process and the caliber of past award winners, are further evidenced by the fact that four past award recipients have been subsequently awarded the Nobel Prize.

Top to bottom (right):
April 13, 1997, then Pezcoller Foundation President Dr. Pietro Monti, shaking hands with the AACR CEO Dr. Margaret Foti, in the presence of then AACR President Dr. Donald S. Coffey, AACR Past President Dr. Enrico Mihich, and Pezcoller Foundation Delegation members Drs. Gios Bernardi and Giorgio Pederzoli

April 16, 2018, renewal of the Pezcoller Foundation-AACR agreement, signed by the AACR CEO Dr. Margaret Foti and the Pezcoller Foundation President, Dr. Enzo Galligioni, in the presence of then AACR President Dr. Elizabeth M. Jaffee and members of the Pezcoller Foundation Delegation

December 7, 2019, last in-person award selection committee meeting held at AACR Headquarters in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; All subsequent award selections have been held virtually as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic

April 16, 2023, Pezcoller Foundation-AACR International Award for Extraordinary Achievement in Cancer Research Selection Committee Chair (2022-2023), Dr. Anton J.M. Berns, alongside 2023 award recipient, Dr. Tak W. Mak and Pezcoller Foundation President, Dr. Enzo Galligioni at the AACR Annual Meeting 2023 in Orlando, Florida
Founded in 1907, the American Association for Cancer Research (AACR) is the world’s oldest and largest professional organization dedicated to advancing cancer research with the mission to prevent and cure all cancers. AACR's membership includes more than 58,000 laboratory, translational, and clinical researchers; population scientists; other health care professionals; and patient advocates residing in 141 countries and territories. The AACR marshals the full spectrum of expertise of the international cancer community to accelerate progress in the prevention, biological understanding, diagnosis, and treatment of cancer by annually convening more than 30 conferences and educational workshops, the largest of which is the AACR Annual Meeting which attracts over 22,000 attendees from around the world. In addition, the AACR publishes ten prestigious, peer-reviewed scientific journals and two publications for cancer survivors, patients, and their caregivers. The AACR funds meritorious research directly as well as in cooperation with numerous cancer organizations. As the Scientific Partner of Stand Up To Cancer, the AACR provides expert peer review, grants administration, and scientific oversight of team science and individual investigator grants in cancer research that have the potential for near-term patient benefit. The AACR actively communicates with legislators and policymakers about the value of cancer research and the related sciences in saving lives from cancer.
TRENTO, ITALY

THE AWARD CEREMONY

In addition to presenting a featured award lecture during the AACR Annual Meeting, all award winners are requested to participate in an official Award Ceremony held in Trento, Italy, and present a formal scientific lecture at the at the University of Trento and the University of Padova.

Originally a Celtic city, Trento was later conquered by the Romans in the first Century BC. In 1227, the Emperor of the Holy Roman Empire, Conrad II, created the prince-bishop of Trento position, which held both temporal and religious powers. Prince-bishops ruled Trento until Napoleon conquered the city in 1801. In 1814, Trento was assigned to the Habsburg Empire. Trento later became famous for the Council of Trent (1545-1563), which gave rise to the Counter-Reformation, ushering in a resurgence of Catholicism throughout Europe. The city owes much of its unique history to its central position along the main communication routes between Italy and Northern Europe.

Initially, the award ceremony for the Pezcoller Foundation-AACR International Award for Extraordinary Achievement in Cancer Research was held in the historic Buonconsiglio Castle located in Trento. This castle was the residence of the prince-bishops of Trento from the 13th century to the end of the 18th century and is the largest and most important monumental complex of the Trentino Alto Adige region.

In 2018, the award ceremony was moved to the historic Teatro Sociale in downtown Trento to accommodate larger audiences from the local scientific community and the public. The Teatro Sociale was officially opened on May 29, 1819, with the opera “La Cenerentola” by Gioachino Antonio Rossini. In 1984, the theatre was purchased by the Autonomous Province of Trento and in June 2000, after eleven years of work, was reopened to the public.
Buonconsiglio Castle, Trento, Italy

Teatro Sociale in Trento, Italy. Award Ceremony venue since 2018
Dr. Titia de Lange is recognized for her contributions to identifying the shelterin protein complex and determining the mechanisms by which shelterin prevents deleterious DNA repair and DNA damage signaling pathways at chromosome ends. Her findings have elucidated why telomere shortening induces apoptosis and senescence and how telomere shortening represents a powerful tumor suppression mechanism. In 1995, through the use of elegant biochemistry approaches, Dr. de Lange identified and cloned the first telomeric mammalian protein of the shelterin complex (TRF1), in turn defining its role in the inhibition of telomeric DNA elongation.

Later, Dr. de Lange identified four additional shelterin complex proteins (TRF2, TIN2, Rap1, and TPP1) that, together with TRF1 and POT1, are responsible for telomere protection. Through a series of groundbreaking subsequent experiments using murine knockout models, Dr. de Lange and her collaborators characterized the fate of telomeres lacking one or more shelterin complex subunits, demonstrating that cells perceive chromosome ends as damaged DNA when shelterin is compromised, as shelterin is able to inhibit six different DNA damage response mechanisms. Dr. de Lange’s research importantly showed that in the absence of shelterin, there is aberrant double-stranded DNA damage repair, resulting in the induction of cell death and/or cellular senescence via the ATM and ATR kinase signaling pathway.

In addition, Dr. de Lange and her collaborators made another major molecular biology discovery when they characterized the t-loop structure of telomeres, whereby a single-stranded overhang is inserted into the double-stranded repeat array of the telomere. This structure has since been proven to protect the telomere end from DNA damage responses, a mechanism orchestrated by TRF2.

Dr. de Lange also uncovered a potential cancer-causing mechanism through her observation that telomere shortening leads to genomic instability in cells with mutations in TP53, a gene that is mutated in half of all cancers. Given that telomere shortening can lead to cancer, Dr. de Lange investigated and later found that the POT1, TIN2, and TRF1 shelterin complex proteins may help prevent cancer by blocking the activity of the telomere-lengthening protein telomerase.

Notably, Dr. de Lange discoveries concerning telomere biology have proven to be pivotal for cancer research as she is credited with linking TIN2 mutations with excessively long telomeres at birth, resulting in a remarkably frequency of primary tumors (up to 5 before age 70) in many different genetic diseases. She built upon this research by then defining that in cells with loss of p53, ongoing DNA damage signaling from shortened telomeres can occur, thereby promoting endoreduplication and tetraploidization frequently observed in cancer. She also demonstrated in vitro, that in checkpoint deficient cells, telomeres can shorten significantly and form dicentric chromosomes that are generated through telomere fusion. In such instances, chromosomes do not break in mitosis but rather form chromatin bridges that contribute to chromothripsis and kataegis, two frequent cancer genome alterations.

Dr. de Lange’s scientific achievements have been recognized with numerous awards and honors, including the National Cancer Institute (NCI) Outstanding Investigator Award (2023, 2016); Karl Friedrich Bonhoeffer Award (2022); Mike Hogg Award (2019); Bert and Natalie Vallee Award in Biomedical Science (2018); Lewis S. Rosenstiel Award for Distinguished Work in Basic Medical Science (2017); Canada Gairdner International Award (2014); J Ill Rose Award (2013); Katharine Berkan Judd Award (2013); Breakthrough Prize in Life Sciences (2013); Royal Netherlands Academy of Sciences Heineken Prize for Biochemistry and Biophysics (2012); NCI Rosalind Franklin Award (2012); Vanderbilt Prize in Biomedical Science (2011); Vilcek Prize for Creative Promise in Biomedical Sciences (2011); American Cancer Society Research Professor Award (2010); Massachusetts General Hospital Cancer Center Prize (2008); The Rockefeller University Distinguished Teaching Award (2007); National Institutes of Health Director’s Pioneer Award (2005); and the Paul Marks Prize for Cancer Research (2001).

Dr. de Lange is also an elected foreign member of the Royal Society (2022); an elected member of the National Academy of Medicine (2010) and Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (2000); an elected Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (2007), American Academy of Arts and Sciences (2007), and American Academy of Microbiology (2006); and an elected international member of the National Academy of Sciences (2006).

Dr. de Lange earned her PhD in Biochemistry, summa cum laude at the University of Amsterdam and the Netherlands Cancer Institute. Throughout her impressive career, she has authored or co-authored over 260 publications, many of which have been featured in high impact international journals, and subsequently cited by others worldwide.
PAST AWARDEES

2023

TAK W. MAK, PHD, FAACR

Director, Campbell Family Institute for Breast Cancer Research, University Health Network Princess Margaret Cancer Centre, Toronto, Ontario, Canada

For fundamental contributions to the fields of immunology, cancer biology, and cancer therapy, including cloning the beta chain of the human T cell receptor and creating genetically modified mouse strains to elucidate the role of the immune system in tumorigenesis. He also characterized two novel kinases, PLK4 and TTK, now promising targets in Phase II clinical trials, and CTLA-4, a negative regulator of T cell activation, later applied to the development of immune checkpoint blockade therapy.

Other Selected Awards and Honors

2021: Albert Szent-Györgyi Prize for Progress in Cancer Research
2020: The Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer (SITC) Team Science Award
2019: The Weinman Award
2018: The Canadian Institutes of Health Research Gold Leaf Prize for Discovery
2016: The Anthony Cerami Award in Translational Medicine
2016: The German Signal Transduction Society Honorary Medal
2014: The University of British Columbia Faculty of Medicine Dr. Chew Wei Memorial Prize in Cancer Research
2007: The Premier’s Summit Award in Medical Research
2004: The Paul Ehrlich and Ludwig Darmstaedter Prize
2003: The Canada Council for the Arts Killam Prize
1998: Novartis Prize for Basic Immunology
1996: The General Motors Cancer Research Foundation Alfred P. Sloan, Jr. Prize
1996: The National Cancer Institute of Canada Robert L. Noble Prize
1995: The King Faisal Prize for Medicine
1990: The Royal Society of Canada McLaughlin Medal
1989: Gairdner Foundation International Award for Science
1988: The Emil von Behring Prize
1985: The Steacie Prize
2022

STEVEN A. ROSENBERG, MD, PHD, FAACR

Chief, Surgery Branch, Senior Investigator, Head, Tumor Immunology Section; National Cancer Institute, Bethesda, Maryland, USA

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 solid epithelial cancers and chimeric antigen receptors against lymphomas. He has identified somatic mutations as targets of T-cell immunotherapy and has demonstrated that administration of tumor infiltrating lymphocytes along with a IL-2 and a lymphodepleting preparative regimen stimulates complete remission in metastatic melanoma and selected other cancers.

Other Selected Awards and Honors

2024 ~ AACR Award for Lifetime Achievement in Cancer Research, American Association for Cancer Research, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
2021 ~ Dan David Prize, “Future” category
2019 ~ Szent-Györgyi Prize for Progress in Cancer Research
2019 ~ AAI-Steinman Award for Human Immunology Research
2019 ~ Anthony Cerami Award in Translational Medicine
2019 ~ Edogawa NICHE Prize
2019 ~ Helis Prize in Cancer Research
2019 ~ Nathan Davis Award for Outstanding Government Service
2018 ~ Albany Medical Center Prize in Medicine and Biomedical Research
2018 ~ Excellence in Technology Transfer Award
2018 ~ Jacobson Innovation Award
2018 ~ NCI Director’s Award for Translational Science
2018 ~ Federal Technology Transfer Award
2016 ~ James Ewing Award
2016 ~ Novartis Prize for Clinical Immunology
2015 ~ American Cancer Society Medal of Honor
2015 ~ Betty Ford Lifetime Achievement Award of Distinction
2015 ~ Samuel J. Heyman Service to America Medals – Federal Employee of the Year, Partnership for Public Service
2012 ~ Keio Medical Science Prize
2011 ~ William B. Coley Award for Distinguished Research in Tumor Immunology
2006 ~ Medallion for Scientific Achievement
2005 ~ Richard V. Smalley, MD, Memorial Award
2005 ~ Lila Gruber Memorial Cancer Research Award
2003 ~ American-Italian Cancer Foundation Prize for Scientific Excellence in Medicine
2002 ~ Flance-Karl Award
1996 ~ John Wayne Award for Clinical Research
1993 ~ Claude Jacquillat Award for Achievement in Clinical Oncology
1991 ~ American Society of Clinical Oncology’s David A. Karnofsky Memorial Award and Lecture
1988 ~ Leopold Griffuel Prize
2021
HANS CLEVERS, MD, PHD, FAACR

Professor of Molecular Genetics at Utrecht University and the UMC Utrecht; Principal Investigator at the Hubrecht Institute and the Princess Máxima Center for Pediatric Oncology; Oncode Investigator, Utrecht, The Netherlands

For pioneering research that uncovered the mechanisms by which Wnt signaling controls gene expression in colon cancer and the self-renewing gut epithelium, which subsequently led to the identification of adult stem cells in healthy tissue and in tumors; for groundbreaking research involving the indefinite expansion of stem cells to form organoids in vitro, and for facilitating the adoption of organoids as an essential model system for the study of various cancers and treatment modalities.

Other Selected Awards and Honors
2019 ~ Keio Medical Science Prize
2018 ~ Academia Europaea Erasmus Medal
2017 ~ Großes Verdienstkreuz mit Stern
2017 ~ Princess Takamatsu Award of Merit
2016 ~ Ilse & Helmut Wachter Award
2016 ~ Swammerdam Medaille
2016 ~ Körber European Science Prize
2016 ~ Kazemi Award for Research Excellence in Biomedicine
2016 ~ Academy Professor Prize of the Royal Netherlands Academy
2015 ~ ISSCR McEwen Award for Innovation
2014 ~ Elected Fellow, American Association for Cancer Research Academy
2014 ~ National Icon of The Netherlands
2014 ~ Struyvenberg European Society for Clinical Investigation Medal
2014 ~ Massachusetts General Hospital Award in Cancer Research
2013 ~ Breakthrough Prize in Life Sciences
2012 ~ Heineken Prize for Medicine
2012 ~ William Beaumont Prize of the American Gastroenterology Association
2012 ~ Association pour la Recherche sur le Cancer Léopold Grifuel Prize
2011 ~ Kolf Prize
2011 ~ Ernst J Jung Medical Award
2010 ~ United European Gastroenterology Federation Research Prize
2009 ~ Queen Wilhelmina Dutch Cancer Society Award
2008 ~ Meyenburg Cancer Research Award
2008 ~ Josephine Nefkens Prize for Cancer Research
2006 ~ Rabbi Shai Shacknai Memorial Prize for Immunology and Cancer Research
2005 ~ Katharine Berkan Judd Award
2005 ~ Science and Society Prize
2004 ~ Louis-Jeantet Prize for Medicine
2001 ~ Spinoza Award of The Netherlands Research Council
2000 ~ Catharijne Prize
2020

**JOHN E. DICK, FRS, FAACR**

Senior Scientist, Princess Margaret Cancer Centre and McEwen Centre for Regenerative Medicine, University Health Network; Professor of Molecular Genetics, University of Toronto; Co-Leader, Acute Leukemia, Translational Research Initiative, Ontario Institute for Cancer Research, Toronto, Ontario, Canada

For discovering and characterizing the mechanisms by which stem cells contribute to normal and leukemic hematopoiesis.

**Other Selected Awards and Honors**

- 2014 ~ Elected Fellow, The Royal Society, London
- 2013 ~ Canadian Cancer Research Alliance Award for Outstanding Achievements in Cancer Research
- 2009 ~ E. Donnall Thomas Prize, American Society of Hematology
- 2009 ~ Clifford Prize for Cancer Research, University of Adelaide, Australia
- 2009 ~ Men of Distinction Award, Israel Cancer Research Fund
- 2008 ~ AACR-G.H.A. Clowes Award for Outstanding Basic Cancer Research
- 2007 ~ Donald Metcalf Award, International Society for Experimental Hematology
- 2007 ~ Premier’s Summit Award in Medical Research, Province of Ontario
- 2007 ~ Diamond Jubilee Award (joint with J E Till and EA McCulloch), National Cancer Institute of Canada
- 2005 ~ Dameshek Prize, American Society of Hematology
- 2004 ~ Elected Fellow, Royal Society of Canada, Academy of Sciences
- 2002 ~ Herman Boerhaave Medal, Leiden University, The Netherlands
- 2000 ~ Robert L. Noble Prize for Excellence in Cancer Research, National Cancer Institute of Canada
- 1997 ~ Michael Smith Prize, Canadian Institutes for Health Research
2019

ALBERTO MANTOVANI, MD

Emeritus Professor of Pathology; Scientific Director, Istituto Clinico Humanitas, Humanitas University, Milan, Italy; Chair, Inflammation and Therapeutic Innovation, Queen Mary University, London, United Kingdom

For seminal research discoveries linking inflammation and tumor-associated macrophages with cancer onset that have been essential to progress in the field of cancer immunology.

Other Selected Awards and Honors

2019 ~ Premio Chirone, Accademia Nazionale di Medicina, Genova, Italy
2018 ~ American-Italian Cancer Foundation Prize for Excellence in Medicine, New York, New York
2017 ~ Elected Member, Academia Europaea, London, United Kingdom
2017 ~ Scanno Award, Scanno, Italy
2017 ~ Rome Prize for Country Development
2016 ~ Robert Koch Award, Stiftung, Germany
2016 ~ International Feltrinelli, Rome, Italy
2016 ~ Organization of European Cancer Institutes Prize, Bruxelles, Belgium
2015 ~ Merck Literary Prize, the Ferrari-Soave International Prize, Torino, Italy
2015 ~ The Milstein Award for Excellence in Interferon and Cytokine Research, International Society for Interferon & Cytokine Research, Oradell, New Jersey
2015 ~ European Society for Clinical Investigation Albert Struyvenberg Medal, Bamberg, Germany
2014 ~ Camuna Award, Regione Lombardia
2009 ~ William Harvey Award, Outstanding Scientist, London, United Kingdom
2007 ~ Galileo Galilei Prize for Research in Biomedical Sciences, Padua, Italy
2004 ~ Guido Venosta Award for Cancer Research, Milan, Italy
2000 ~ Marie T. Bonazinga Award, Society for Leukocyte Biology, Silver Spring, Maryland
2018

TONY R. HUNTER, PHD, FAACR

American Cancer Society Professor, Molecular and Cell Biology Laboratory; Renato Dulbecco Chair and Director, Salk Institute for Biological Studies, La Jolla, California, USA

For the critical discovery of tyrosine kinases being the first to demonstrate that deregulated tyrosine phosphorylation can cause malignant transformation, which has since led to proven successes involving the use of cancer chemotherapeutics that target tyrosine kinases.

Other Selected Awards and Honors

2024 ~ AACR-Princess Takamatsu Memorial Lectureship, American Association for Cancer Research, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
2022 ~ AACR Award for Lifetime Achievement in Cancer Research, American Association for Cancer Research, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
2018 ~ Tang Prize in Biopharmaceutical Science, Tang Prize Foundation, Taipei, Taiwan
2017 ~ Sjöberg Prize for Cancer Research, The Sjöberg Foundation, Lysekil, Sweden
2014 ~ Frontiers of Knowledge Award in Biomedicine, BBVA Foundation, Madrid, Spain
2014 ~ Louisa Gross Horwitz Prize, Columbia University, New York, New York
2014 ~ Royal Medal, The Royal Society, London, United Kingdom
2013 ~ Elected Fellow, American Association for Cancer Research Academy, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
2007 ~ Cliford Prize for Cancer Research, Centre for Cancer Biology, Adelaide, Australia
2005 ~ Wolf Prize in Medicine, Wolf Foundation, Tel Aviv, Israel
2004 ~ Kirk A. Landon Prize for Basic Cancer Research, American Association for Cancer Research, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
2003 ~ Sergio Lombroso Award in Cancer Research, Weizmann Institute of Science, Rehovot, Israel
2001 ~ Keio Medical Science Prize, Keio University, Tokyo
1998 ~ Elected Member, National Academy of Sciences, Washington, DC
1994 ~ Canada Gairdner International Award, Gairdner Foundation, Toronto, Canada
1992 ~ Elected Fellow, American Academy of Arts and Sciences, Cambridge, Massachusetts
2004 ~ Elected Member, National Academy of Medicine, Washington, DC
1987 ~ Elected Fellow, The Royal Society, London, United Kingdom
2000 ~ Marie T. Bonazinga Award, Society for Leukocyte Biology, Silver Spring, Maryland
2017

DAVID M. LIVINGSTON, MD, FAACR (1941-2021)

Professor of Genetics; Emil Frei Professor of Medicine, Harvard Medical School; Chairman, Executive Committee for Research; Charles A. Dana Chair of Human Cancer Genetics, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Boston, Massachusetts, USA

For fundamental research that led to the landmark discovery of BRCA1 and BRCA2 and a better understanding of the retinoblastoma pathway of cell cycle control as well as the transcriptional co-activation function of key regulatory proteins including p300 and CBP.

Other Selected Awards and Honors
2014 ~Elected Fellow, American Association for Cancer Research Academy, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
2011 ~Scientific Excellence in Medicine Prize, American-Italian Cancer Research, New York, New York
2012 ~Robert J. and Claire Pasarow Foundation Medical Research Award in Cancer Research, Santa Monica, California
2009 ~Anthony Dipple Carcinogenesis Award, European Association for Cancer Research, Nottingham, United Kingdom
2005 ~AACR-G.H.A Clowes Award for Outstanding Basic Cancer Research, American Association for Cancer Research, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
2005 ~Theodor Boveri Award, German Cancer Society, Berlin, Germany
2001 ~Lila Gruber Award for Cancer Research, American Academy of Dermatology, Rosemont, Illinois
2001 ~Elected Fellow, American Academy of Arts and Sciences, Washington, DC
1997 ~Brinker International Award for Breast Cancer Research, Susan B. Komen® Dallas, Texas
1997 ~Award for Distinguished Research in the Biomedical Sciences, Association of American Medical Colleges, Washington, DC
1995 ~Elected Member, National Academy of Sciences, Washington, DC
1990 ~Elected Member, National Academy of Medicine, Washington, DC
2016

JOAN MASSAGUÉ, PHD, FAACR

Member, Cancer Biology and Genetics Program; Marie-Josée and Henry Kravis Foundation Chair; Director, Sloan Kettering Institute, New York, New York, USA

For pioneering efforts toward delineating the TGF-β signaling pathway and its mechanism of action including receptor activation and regulation of key target genes, and for demonstrating how TGF-β can function as both a growth suppressor and promoter of cancer metastasis.

Other Selected Awards and Honors

2016 ~ Elected Fellow, American Association for Cancer Research Academy, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
2015 ~ Charles Rodolphe Brupacher Prize for Cancer, Zürich, Switzerland
2014 ~ Santiago Ramon y Cajal National Prize for Research in Biology, Madrid, Spain
2013 ~ Scientific Excellence in Medicine Prize, American-Italian Cancer Research, New York, New York
2011 ~ Robert J. and Claire Pasarow Foundation Medical Research Award in Cancer Research, Santa Monica, California
2011 ~ Innovator Award, U.S. Department of Defense, Arlington, Virginia
2009 ~ AACR-G.H.A Clowes Award for Outstanding Basic Cancer Research, American Association for Cancer Research, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
2008 ~ Frontiers Prize in Biomedicine, BBVA Foundation, Madrid, Spain
2007 ~ Passano Award, The Passano Foundation, Baltimore, Maryland
2006 ~ Vlcek Prize for Biomedical Science, New York, NY
2006 ~ Elected Member, National Academy of Medicine, Washington, DC
2004 ~ Prince of Asturias Award for Technical and Scientific Research, Prince of Asturias Foundation, Oviedo, Spain
2003 ~ Gold Medal, Spanish Society of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, Madrid, Spain
2000 ~ Elected Member, National Academy of Sciences, Washington, DC
2015

JAMES P. ALLISON, PHD, FAACR

Chair, Department of Immunology, Division of Basic Science Research; Olga Keith Wiess Distinguished University Chair for Cancer Research; Regental Professor, Department of Immunology, Division of Basic Science Research; Executive Director, Immunotherapy Platform; Deputy Director, David H. Koch Center for Applied Research of Genitourinary Cancers; Director, Parker Institute for Cancer Immunotherapy, The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, Texas, USA

For groundbreaking discoveries, including the identification of CTLA-4 as an inhibitory receptor on T cells that serve as an immune response checkpoint, and for demonstrating that CTLA-4 blockade is capable of enhancing anti-tumor T cell responses by releasing CTLA-4 suppression, a finding that has since revolutionized the development of novel cancer immunotherapies. His groundbreaking research was recognized with the 2018 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine.

Other Selected Awards and Honors

2018 ~ Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine, Stockholm, Sweden
2018 ~ Dr. Paul Janssen Award for Biomedical Research, Johnson and Johnson, Raritan, New Jersey
2017 ~ Wolf Prize in Medicine, Wolf Foundation, Tel Aviv, Israel
2015 ~ Passano Award, The Passano Foundation, Baltimore, Maryland
2015 ~ Lasker-Debakey Clinical Medical Research Award, Albert and Mary Lasker Foundation, New York, New York
2014 ~ Elected Fellow, American Association for Cancer Research Academy, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
2014 ~ Breakthrough Prize in Life Sciences, San Francisco, California
2014 ~ Canada Gairdner International Award, Gairdner Foundation, Toronto, Canada
2014 ~ Massry Prize, The Meira and Shaul G. Massry Foundation, Beverly Hills, California
2013 ~ AACR-CRI Lloyd J. Old Award in Cancer Immunology, American Association for Cancer Research, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
2011 ~ Lifetime Achievement Award, American Association of Immunologists, Rockville, Maryland
2007 ~ Elected Member, National Academy of Medicine, Washington, DC
2006 ~ Elected Fellow, American Association for the Advancement of Science, Washington, DC
1997 ~ Elected Member, National Academy of Sciences, Washington, DC
1997 ~ Elected Fellow, American Academy of Microbiology, American Society for Microbiology, Washington, DC
2014

ELAINE FUCHS, PHD, FAACR

Rebecca C. Lancefield Professor of Mammalian Cell Biology and Development, The Rockefeller University; Investigator, Howard Hughes Medical Institute; New York, New York, USA

For scientific contributions that have illuminated how skin stem cells respond to environmental signals, change gene expression patterns, and remodel cellular interactions in epidermal development; and for discovering how stem cell activation processes may be deregulated in cancer.

Other Selected Awards and Honors

2015 – E. B. Wilson Medal, American Society for Cell Biology, Bethesda, Maryland
2013 – Passano Award, The Passano Foundation, Baltimore, Maryland
2013 – Robert J. and Claire Pasarow Foundation Medical Research Award in Cancer Research, Santa Monica, California
2013 – Elected Fellow, American Association for Cancer Research Academy, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
2011 – Albany Medical Center Prize in Medicine and Biomedical Research, Albany, New York
2010 – L’Oreal UNESCO Awards for Women in Science, Paris, France
2009 – United States National Medal of Science, National Science Foundation, Washington, DC
2006 – Excellence in Science Award, FASEB, Bethesda, Maryland
2003 – Novartis-Drew Award in Biomedical Research, Madison, New Jersey
2001 – Richard Lounsbery Award, National Academy of Sciences, Washington, DC
1997 – Senior Women’s Career Achievement Award, American Society for Cell Biology, Bethesda, Maryland
1996 – Elected Member, National Academy of Sciences, Washington, DC
1994 – Elected Fellow, American Academy of Arts and Sciences, Cambridge, Massachusetts
1994 – Elected Member, National Academy of Medicine, Washington, DC
2013

**PETER K. VOGT, PHD, FAACR**

Professor, Department of Molecular and Experimental Medicine, The Scripps Research Institute, La Jolla, California, USA

For the seminal discovery that the Rous sarcoma virus causes cancer through the activity of the Src gene, representing the first-ever identification of a protooncogene and marking a turning point in the understanding of the fundamental genetic mechanisms of carcinogenesis.

**Other Selected Awards and Honors**

- 2019 ~ Louisa Gross Horwitz Prize, Columbia University, New York, New York
- 2017 ~ Prize for Scientific Excellence in Medicine, American Italian Cancer Foundation, New York, New York
- 2016 ~ Lifetime Achievement Award for Scientific Contributions, Institute of Human Virology, University of Maryland, Baltimore, Maryland
- 2013 ~ Elected Fellow, American Association for Cancer Research Academy, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- 2013 ~ Einstein Professorship, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing, China
- 2010 ~ Szent-Györgyi Prize for Progress in Cancer Research, National Foundation for Cancer Research, Rockville, Maryland
- 2008 ~ Gregor Johann Mendel Medal for Merit in the Biological Sciences, Czech Academy of Sciences, Prague, Czech Republic
- 2004 ~ Elected Fellow, American Academy of Arts and Sciences, Cambridge, Massachusetts
- 2003 ~ Elected Member, National Academy of Medicine, Washington, DC
- 1998 ~ Elected Member, German National Academy of Sciences, Leopoldina, Halle, Germany
- 1991 ~ Elected Member, American Philosophical Society, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- 1987 ~ Robert J. and Claire Pasarow Foundation Medical Research Award in Cancer Research, Santa Monica, California
- 1985 ~ Ernst Jung Prize for Medicine, Ernst Jung Foundation, Hamburg, Germany
- 1980 ~ Elected Member, National Academy of Sciences, Washington, DC
2012

ROBERT A. WEINBERG, PHD, FAACR

Founding Member, Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research; Professor of Biology, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA

For essential contributions to revolutionizing the fields of cellular and molecular biology and cancer genetics, highlighted by his discovery of the first human oncogene, RAS, and the first tumor suppressor gene, RB.

Other Selected Awards and Honors

2016 ~ AACR Award for Lifetime Achievement in Cancer Research, American Association for Cancer Research, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
2013 ~ Elected Fellow, American Association for Cancer Research Academy, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
2013 ~ Inaugural Breakthrough Prize in Life Sciences, San Francisco, California
2007 ~ Otto Warburg Medal, German Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, Frankfurt, Germany
2006 ~ Kirk A. Landon-AACR Prize for Basic Cancer Research, American Association for Cancer Research, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
2004 ~ Wolf Prize in Medicine, Wolf Foundation, Tel Aviv, Israel
2000 ~ Elected Member, National Academy of Medicine, Washington, DC
1997 ~ Keio Medical Science Prize, Keio University, Tokyo, Japan
1997 ~ National Medal of Science, National Science Foundation, Washington, DC
1996 ~ AACR-G.H.A. Clowes Award for Outstanding Basic Cancer Research, American Association for Cancer Research, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
1992 ~ Elected Foreign Member, Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences, Stockholm, Sweden
1992 ~ Canada Gairdner International Award, Gairdner Foundation, Toronto, Canada
1989 ~ Elected Fellow, American Academy of Arts and Sciences, Cambridge, Massachusetts
1987 ~ Alfred P. Sloan, Jr., Prize, General Motors Cancer Research Foundation, New York, New York
1985 ~ Elected Member, National Academy of Sciences, Washington, DC
2011
PIER PAOLO PANDOLFI, MD, PHD

Scientific Director, Institute of Cancer; Senior Scientist, Renown Health, Reno, Nevada, USA

For significant research findings in the field of molecular cancer biology, characterizing chromosomal translocations leading to acute promyelocytic leukemia, uncovering the molecular pathogenesis of fusion proteins, and ultimately leading to novel cancer therapeutics.

Other Selected Awards and Honors
2018 ~Elected Fellow, Royal College of Physicians, London, United Kingdom
2017 ~Elected Fellow, American Association for the Advancement of Science, Washington, DC
2015 ~Knight, Ufficiale dell’Ordine della Stella d’Italia, Rome, Italy
2013 ~Ethic International Award in Biomedicine, Oscar Pomilio Blumm Forum, Pescara, Italy
2013 ~Guido Venosta Award for Cancer Research, Italian Foundation for Cancer Research, Rome, Italy
2012 ~Premio Scanno in Medicine, Tanturri Foundation, Rome, Italy
2007 ~Elected Member, European Molecular Biology Organization, Heidelberg, Germany
2006 ~Elected Member, Association of American Physicians, Belleville, Michigan
2006 ~Elected Member, American Society for Clinical Investigation, Ann Arbor, Michigan
2005 ~Prize for Scientific Excellence in Medicine, American-Italian Cancer Foundation, New York, New York
2002 ~Stohlman Award, Leukemia Society of America, Rye Brook, New York
2001 ~Sergio Lombroso Award in Cancer Research, Weizmann Institute of Science, Rehovot, Israel
2000 ~Hamdan Award for Medical Research Excellence, Shaikh Hamdan Bin Rashid Maktoum Dubai, United Arab Emirates
1999 ~Louise and Allston Boyer Young Investigator Award in Biomedical Research, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York, New York
1999 ~Scholar Award, Leukemia Society of America, Rye Brook, New York
2010

JOSEPH SCHLESSINGER, PHD, FAACR

William H. Prusoff Professor of Pharmacology; Chair, Department of Pharmacology; Co-Director, Cancer Biology Institute, Yale School of Medicine, New Haven, Connecticut, USA

For scientific contributions to the understanding of intracellular signaling pathways, including his description of the mechanism of action by which activated receptor tyrosine kinases bind to signaling proteins via Src homology 2 (SH2) and phosphotyrosine binding (PTB) domains.

Other Selected Awards and Honors

2016 ~ Elected Fellow, American Association for Cancer Research Academy, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
2014 ~ BBVA Foundation Frontiers of Knowledge Award, Madrid, Spain
2009 ~ Order of Danica Hrvatska Medal, Republic of Croatia
2008 ~ Elected Foreign Member, Croatian Academy of Science, Zagreb, Croatia
2006 ~ Dan David Prize, Dan David Foundation, Tel Aviv University, Tel Aviv, Israel
2006 ~ Elected Foreign Member, Russian Academy of Sciences, Moskva, Russia
2004 ~ Elected Member, National Academy of Medicine, Washington, DC
2004 ~ Elected Member, European Academy of Sciences, Brussels, Belgium
2001 ~ Elected Fellow, American Academy of Arts and Sciences, Cambridge, Massachusetts
2000 ~ Elected Member, National Academy of Sciences, Washington, DC
2000 ~ J. Allyn Taylor International Prize in Medicine, Roberts Research Institute, Ontario, Canada
1995 ~ Novartis-Drew Award in Biomedical Research, Madison, New Jersey
1995 ~ Prix Antoine Lacassagne, French League Against Cancer, Paris, France
2009

NAPOLEONE FERRARA, MD, FAACR

Distinguished Professor of Pathology; Adjunct Professor of Ophthalmology and Pharmacology; Hildyard Endowed Chair in Eye Disease, University of California, San Diego Moores Cancer Center, San Diego, California, USA

For the groundbreaking discovery of vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF), and for describing its role in promoting angiogenesis in tumors and subsequently developing bevacizumab to inhibit blood vessel growth in multiple cancer types.

Other Selected Awards and Honors

2014 ~ Canada Gairdner International Award, Gairdner Foundation, Toronto, Canada
2013 ~ Breakthrough Prize in Life Sciences, San Francisco, California
2013 ~ Elected Fellow, American Association for Cancer Research Academy, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
2012 ~ Innovation Award in Bioscience, The Economist, London, United Kingdom
2011 ~ Dr. Paul Janssen Award for Biomedical Research, Johnson and Johnson, Raritan, New Jersey
2010 ~ Lasker-DeBakey Clinical Medical Research Award, Albert and Mary Lasker Foundation, New York, New York
2010 ~ Michaelson Macula Society Award, Macula Society, Beachwood, Ohio
2007 ~ Science of Oncology Award, American Society of Clinical Oncology, Alexandria, Virginia
2006 ~ General Motors Cancer Research Award, General Motors Cancer Research Foundation, New York, New York
2006 ~ Passano Award, The Passano Foundation, Baltimore, Maryland
2006 ~ Elected Member, National Academy of Sciences, Washington, DC
2005 ~ AACR - Bruce F. Cain Memorial Award, American Association for Cancer Research, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
2004 ~ Prize for Scientific Excellence in Medicine, American-Italian Cancer Foundation, New York, New York
2008

**AXEL ULLRICH, PHD, FAACR**

Emeritus Scientific Member, Max Planck Institute of Biochemistry, Martinsried, Germany

For fundamental discoveries in signal transduction research that include the identification of the primary structure of the human epidermal growth factor receptor (EGFR), providing key insights into the genomic determinants that promote cancer progression and the development of novel cancer treatments notably the FDA-approved therapeutics Herceptin and TENT/Sunitinib.

**Other Selected Awards and Honors**

- 2019 ~ Lasker-Debakey Clinical Medical Research Award, Albert and Mary Lasker Foundation, New York, New York
- 2014 ~ Elected Fellow, American Association for Cancer Research Academy, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- 2013 ~ Elected Member, Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Budapest, Hungary
- 2010 ~ Wolf Prize in Medicine, Wolf Foundation, Tel Aviv, Israel
- 2009 ~ Debrecen Award for Molecular Medicine, University of Debrecen, Debrecen, Hungary
- 2009 ~ Cross of Merit 1st Class, Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany, Berlin, Germany
- 2008 ~ Hamdan Award for Medical Research Excellence, Shaikh Hamdan Bin Rashid Maktoum, Dubai, United Arab Emirates
- 2007 ~ Warren Alpert Foundation Prize, Warren Alpert Foundation, Providence, Rhode Island
- 2005 ~ Otto Warburg Medal, German Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, Frankfurt, Germany
- 2005 ~ Elected Foreign Member (hon), American Academy of Arts and Sciences, Cambridge, Massachusetts
- 2003 ~ King Faisal International Prize for Science, King Faisal Foundation, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
- 2001 ~ Robert Koch Award, Robert Koch Foundation, Berlin, Germany
- 2000 ~ Elected Member, German National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina, Halle, Germany
- 2000 ~ AACR-Bruce F. Cain Memorial Award, American Association for Cancer Research, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- 1998 ~ German Cancer Prize, German Cancer Society, Frankfurt, Germany
- 1991 ~ Prix Antoine Lacassagne, French League Against Cancer, Paris, France
2007

MINA J. BISSELL, PHD, FAACR

Distinguished Scientist, Biological Systems and Engineering Division, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, Berkeley, California, USA

For pivotal scientific discoveries in epithelial tumor biology that have effectively shaped the understanding of the mechanisms by which the extracellular matrix and tumor microenvironment regulate gene expression and the stability of the differentiated cellular states in normal and malignant tissues.

Other Selected Awards and Honors

2019 ~ Jonathan E. Rhoads Gold Medal for Distinguished Service to Medicine, American Philosophical Society, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
2019 ~ Weizmann Women & Science Award, Weizmann Institute of Science, Tel Aviv, Israel
2014 ~ AACR Award for Lifetime Achievement in Cancer Research, American Association for Cancer Research, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
2013 ~ Elected Fellow, American Association for Cancer Research Academy, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
2012 ~ AACR Distinguished Achievement Award in Breast Cancer Research, American Association for Cancer Research, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
2012 ~ Lifetime Achievement Award, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, Berkeley, California
2010 ~ Elected Member, National Academy of Sciences, Washington, DC
2010 ~ Elected Fellow, Royal Society of Chemistry, London, United Kingdom
2007 ~ Elected Fellow, American Philosophical Society, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
2008 ~ Medal of Honor for Clinical Research, American Cancer Society, Atlanta, Georgia
2003 ~ Brinker Award for Scientific Distinction in Basic Science, Susan G. Komen®, Dallas, Texas
2002 ~ Elected Fellow, American Academy of Arts and Sciences, Cambridge, Massachusetts
1999 ~ AACR-G.H.A. Clowes Award for Outstanding Basic Cancer Research, American Association for Cancer Research Academy, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
1997 ~ Elected Member, National Academy of Medicine, Washington, DC
1994 ~ Elected Fellow, American Association for the Advancement of Science, Washington, DC
2006

TADATSUGU TANIGUCHI, PHD, FAACR

Professor and Chair, Immunology Laboratory, Graduate School of Medicine, University of Tokyo, Tokyo, Japan

For groundbreaking discoveries that include the isolation and characterization of the first cytokine genes (interferon-β and interleukin-2), the discovery of the IRF family of transcription factors, and the subsequent elucidation of their molecular functions in cancer.

Other Selected Awards and Honors

2021 ~ Elected Fellow, American Association for Cancer Research Academy, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
2018 ~ Elected Foreign Associate, European Molecular Biology Organization, Heidelberg, Germany
2016 ~ Elected International Member, National Academy of Medicine, Washington, DC
2009 ~ Person of Cultural Merit, Government of Japan, Tokyo, Japan
2008 ~ Tomizo Yoshido Award, Japanese Cancer Association, Tokyo, Japan
2003 ~ Elected Foreign Associate, National Academy of Sciences, Washington, DC
2000 ~ Japan Academy Prize, Japan Academy, Tokyo, Japan
1997 ~ Keio Medical Science Prize, Keio University, Tokyo, Japan
1991 ~ Robert Koch Prize for Excellence in Scientific Achievement, Robert Koch Foundation, Berlin, Germany
1989 ~ Asahi Prize, Asahi Shimbun Foundation, Osaka, Japan
1988 ~ Seymour & Vivian Milstein Award for Excellence in Interferon and Cytokine Research, International Cytokine and Interferon Society, Oradell, New Jersey
1986 ~ Armand Hammer Prize for Cancer Research
2005

**LEWIS C. CANTLEY, PHD, FAACR**

Meyer Director, Sandra and Edward Meyer Cancer Center; Professor of Cancer Biology in Medicine, Weill Cornell Medical College, New York, New York, USA

For outstanding contributions to the field of signal transduction, including the discovery of phosphoinositide 3-kinase (PI3K) and the elucidation of its role in signal transduction, and for the establishment of methods for unbiased determination of protein-protein interactions and kinase specificity.

**Other Selected Awards and Honors**

2019 ~Louisa Gross Horwitz Prize, Columbia University, New York, New York
2016 ~Wolf Prize in Medicine, Wolf Foundation, Tel Aviv, Israel
2016 ~Basic Research Award, Hope Funds for Cancer Research, Newport, Rhode Island
2015 ~Canada Gairdner International Award, Gairdner Foundation, Toronto, Canada
2015 ~Ross Prize in Molecular Medicine, Manhasset, New York
2015 ~AACR-Princess Takamatsu Memorial Lectureship, American Association for Cancer Research, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
2014 ~Elected Member, National Academy of Medicine, Washington, DC
2014 ~Elected Fellow, American Association for Cancer Research Academy, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
2013 ~Breakthrough Prize in Life Sciences, San Francisco, California
2011 ~Robert J. and Claire Pasarow Foundation Medical Research Award in Cancer Research, Santa Monica, California
2009 ~Rolf Luft Award, Karolinska Institute, Stockholm, Sweden
2002 ~Caledonian Prize Lectureship in Biomedical Science, Royal Society of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, United Kingdom
2001 ~Elected Fellow, National Academy of Sciences, Washington, DC
2000 ~Heinrich Wieland Prize for Lipid Research, Boehringer Ingelheim Foundation, Mainz, Germany
1999 ~Elected Member, American Academy of Arts and Sciences, Cambridge, Massachusetts
2004

**STANLEY J. KORSMEYER, MD** *(1950-2005)*

Investigator, Howard Hughes Medical Institute, Sidney Farber Professor of Pathology and Professor Medicine, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Harvard Medical School, Boston, Massachusetts, USA

For landmark experiments involving lymphoma patient-derived cell lines that established the primary role of Bcl-2 in programmed cell death, for demonstrating its role in regulating cell survival, and for identifying key family members including Bad and Bid, which led to the subsequent development of small molecule Bcl-2 inhibitors.

**Other Selected Awards and Honors**

- 2004 ~ Stratton Medal, American Society of Hematology, Washington, DC
- 2002 ~ Elected Member, National Academy of Medicine, Washington, DC
- 2002 ~ Wiley Prize in Biomedical Sciences, Hoboken, New Jersey
- 2002 ~ Elected Member, American Philosophical Society, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- 2000 ~ Louisa Gross Horwitz Prize, Columbia University, New York, New York
- 1997 ~ Bristol-Myers Squibb Award for Distinguished Achievement in Cancer Research, New York, New York
- 1995 ~ Elected Member, National Academy of Sciences, Washington, DC
2003

**MARIO R. CAPECCHI, PHD, FAACR**

Professor, Department of Human Genetics; Adjunct Professor, Department of Oncological Sciences, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah, USA

For the discovery, development, and application of targeted mutagenesis in mouse embryonal stem cells, which ultimately revolutionized the field of mouse genetics to model human disease by helping to elucidate the molecular mechanisms responsible for tumorigenesis and providing cancer models for the testing of novel therapeutics. These significant research findings were recognized by the 2007 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine.

**Other Selected Awards and Honors**

- 2015 ~ AACR Award for Lifetime Achievement in Cancer Research, American Association for Cancer Research, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- 2015 ~ Elected Member, National Academy of Medicine, Washington, DC
- 2009 ~ Elected Fellow, American Academy of Arts and Sciences, Cambridge, Massachusetts
- 2007 ~ **Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine**, Stockholm, Sweden
- 2005 ~ Prize in Developmental Biology, March of Dimes, White Plains, New York
- 2003 ~ Elected Fellow, American Association for Cancer Research Academy, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- 2002 ~ Wolf Prize in Medicine, Wolf Foundation, Tel Aviv, Israel
- 2002 ~ Massry Prize, The Meira and Shaul G. Massry Foundation, Beverly Hills, California
- 2001 ~ National Medal of Science, National Science Foundation, Washington, DC
- 2001 ~ Elected Fellow, American Association for the Advancement of Science, Washington, DC
- 2001 ~ Albert Lasker Award for Basic Medical Research, New York, New York
- 1998 ~ Baxter Award for Distinguished Research in the Biomedical Sciences, Association of American Medical Colleges, Washington, DC
- 1996 ~ Kyoto Prize in Basic Sciences, Inamori Foundation, Kyoto, Japan
- 1993 ~ Canada Gairdner International Award, Gairdner Foundation, Toronto, Canada
- 1991 ~ Elected Member, National Academy of Sciences, Washington, DC
2002

CARL-HENRIK HELDIN, PHD

Professor, Department of Medical Biochemistry and Microbiology, Uppsala University, Uppsala, Sweden

For formative contributions to our understanding of growth factor-mediated signal transduction in mammalian cells, particularly platelet-derived growth factor (PDGF), and transforming growth factor (TGF-β) signaling.

Other Selected Awards and Honors
2016 ~Elected Fellow, American Academy of Arts and Sciences, Cambridge, Massachusetts
2016 ~H. M. The Kings Medal, Swedish Royal Court, Stockholm, Sweden
2012 ~Honorary Medal, Signal Transduction Society, Hannover, Germany
2011 ~Berzelius Medal, Royal Swedish Academy, Stockholm, Sweden
1999 ~Meyenburg Prize, Meyenburg Foundation, Heidelberg, Germany
1999 ~Elected Member, Academia Europaea, London, United Kingdom
1992 ~EMBO Gold Medal, European Molecular Biology Organization, Heidelberg, Germany
1991 ~Elected Member, Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences, Stockholm, Sweden
1989 ~Elected Member, European Molecular Biology Organization, Heidelberg, Germany
1989 ~Prix Antoine Lacassagne, French League Against Cancer, Paris, France
2001

ELIZABETH H. BLACKBURN, PHD, FAACR

Morris Herzttein Professor Emerita of Biology and Physiology, Department of Biochemistry and Biophysics, University of California, San Francisco
San Francisco, California, USA

For seminal contributions to the discovery of telomerase, and for defining its role in maintaining telomeres and protecting chromosomal ends from degradation, processes that have since been identified as critically important during DNA replication and cell division. These fundamental contributions to cellular and molecular biology were celebrated by the 2009 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine.

Other Selected Awards and Honors

2015 ~ Royal Medal, The Royal Society, London, United Kingdom
2013 ~ Elected Fellow, American Association for Cancer Research Academy, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
2010 ~ President, American Association for Cancer Research, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
2010 ~ Elected Fellow, Royal Society of New South Wales, Sidney, Australia
2009 ~ Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine, Stockholm, Sweden
2007 ~ Elected Fellow, Australian Academy of Science, Canberra, Australia
2007 ~ Louisa Gross Horwitz Prize, Columbia University, New York, New York
2006 ~ Albert Lasker Basic Medical Research Award, New York, New York
2006 ~ Wiley Prize in Biomedical Sciences, Hoboken, New Jersey
2003 ~ Robert J. and Claire Pasarow Foundation Medical Research Award in Cancer Research, Santa Monica, California
2000 ~ Elected Member, National Academy of Medicine, Washington, DC
2000 ~ AACR-G.H.A. Clowes Award for Outstanding Basic Cancer Research, American Association for Cancer Research, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
1999 ~ Passano Award, The Passano Foundation, Baltimore, Maryland
1992 ~ Elected Fellow, The Royal Society, London, United Kingdom
1991 ~ Elected Fellow, American Academy of Arts and Sciences, Cambridge, Massachusetts
2000

**CHARLES J. SHER, MD, PHD, FAACR**

Chair, Department of Tumor Cell Biology; Herrick Foundation Chair, St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital, Memphis, Tennessee, USA

For the discovery of three mammalian D-type G1 phase cyclins and associated cyclin-dependent kinases, including CDK4, and for elucidating their roles in cellular proliferation, replication, and neoplastic transformation.

**Other Selected Awards and Honors**

2019 ~ C. Chester Stock Award Lectureship, Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, New York, New York
2013 ~ Prize for Scientific Excellence in Medicine, American-Italian Cancer Foundation, New York, New York
2013 ~ Elected Fellow, American Association for Cancer Research Academy, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
2010 ~ Elected Fellow, American Association for the Advancement of Science, Washington, DC
2004 ~ Elected Member, National Academy of Medicine, Washington, DC
2004 ~ Charles S. Mott Prize, General Motors Cancer Research Foundation, New York, New York
2003 ~ AACR-Landon Prize for Basic Cancer Research, American Association for Cancer Research, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
2000 ~ Bristol Myers-Squibb Achievement Award for Basic Cancer Research, Bristol-Meyers Squibb Foundation, New York, New York
1995 ~ Elected Member, National Academy of Sciences, Washington, DC
1991 ~ Elected Member, Association of American Physicians, Belleville, Michigan
1987 ~ William Damashek Prize, American Association of Hematology, Washington, DC
1999

CARLO M. CROCE, MD, FAACR

John W. Wolfe Chair in Human Cancer Genetics; Member, Cancer Biology Program, Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center, Columbus, Ohio, USA

For extensive discoveries that have significantly extended the understanding of the genetic basis of Burkitts lymphoma, T-cell lymphoma, and acute leukemia, including his discovery that chromosomal abnormalities involving immunoglobulin gene loci and Myc are capable of contributing to both cancer initiation and progression.

Other Selected Awards and Honors

2017 ~ AACR Margaret Foti Award for Leadership and Extraordinary Achievements in Cancer Research, American Association for Cancer Research, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

2011 ~ Szent-Györgyi Prize for Progress in Cancer Research, National Foundation for Cancer Research, Rockville, Maryland

2013 ~ Elected Fellow, American Association for Cancer Research Academy, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

2011 ~ Elected Member, National Academy of Medicine, Washington, DC

2010 ~ Elected Fellow, American Academy of Arts and Sciences, Cambridge, Massachusetts

2006 ~ AACR-G.H.A. Clowes Award for Outstanding Basic Cancer Research, American Association for Cancer Research, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

2005 ~ Jefrey A. Gottlieb Memorial Award, MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, Texas

2003 ~ The National Prize of the President of the Republic, Accademia dei Lincei, Rome, Italy

1999 ~ Raymond Bourgine Award for Excellence in Cancer Research, Laboratoires Pierre Fabre, Paris, France

1996 ~ Elected Member, National Academy of Sciences, Washington, DC

1993 ~ Charles S. Mott Prize, General Motors Cancer Research Foundation, New York, New York

1992 ~ Premio Scanno in Medicine, Tanturri Foundation, Rome, Italy
1998

ANTHONY J. PAWSON, PHD (1952-2013)

Senior Scientist and Head, Programme in Molecular Biology and Cancer, Samuel Lunenfeld Research Institute; Apotex Chair in Oncology, Mount Sinai Hospital; Professor, University of Toronto, Terry Fox Cancer Research Scientist, National Cancer Institute of Canada, Toronto, Ontario, Canada

For fundamental research in revolutionizing the understanding of signal transduction and the molecular mechanisms by which cells respond to external cues, and for his discovery of Src homology 2 (SH2) domains, which have been since proven critical for protein-protein interactions.

Other Selected Awards and Honors

2008 ~ Kyoto Prize in Basic Sciences, Inamori Foundation, Kyoto, Japan
2006 ~ Order of the Companions of Honour, Commonwealth realms, London, United Kingdom
2005 ~ Royal Medal, The Royal Society, London, United Kingdom
2005 ~ Wolf Prize in Medicine, Wolf Foundation, Tel Aviv, Israel
2004 ~ Elected Fellow, American Academy of Arts and Sciences, Cambridge, Massachusetts
2004 ~ Elected Foreign Associate, National Academy of Sciences, Washington, DC
2004 ~ Louisa Gross Horwitz Prize, Columbia University, New York, New York
1998 ~ Heineken Prize for Biochemistry and Biophysics, Royal Netherlands Academy of Sciences, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
1995 ~ Robert L. Noble Prize, Canadian Cancer Society, Toronto, Canada
1994 ~ Elected Fellow, The Royal Society, London, United Kingdom
1994 ~ Elected Fellow, Royal Society of Canada, Ottawa, Canada
1994 ~ Canada Gairdner International Award, Gairdner Foundation, Toronto, Canada
AWARD PROGRAM GUIDELINES

2025 AWARD PROGRAM GUIDELINES

AWARD SUMMARY
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.

Eligible candidates must continue to be active in cancer research; have a record of recent, noteworthy publications; and be conducting ongoing work that holds promise for continued substantive contributions to progress in the field of cancer.

The award is intended to honor an individual scientist. However, more than one scientist may be co-nominated and selected to share the award in the event that their investigations are intimately related in subject matter and have resulted in work that is worthy of the award and a joint nomination.

The award recipient will receive an unrestricted grant, a commemorative award plaque, and present a featured scientific lecture in conjunction with the AACR Annual Meeting immediately following their selection. The award recipient will also be invited to present a featured scientific lecture at the University of Trento, in conjunction with the official award ceremony to be held in Trento, Italy in May 2025.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA
Cancer researchers affiliated with any institution involved in cancer research, cancer medicine, or cancer-related science anywhere in the world may be nominated. Such institutions include those in academia, industry, or government.

Individuals who have previously been awarded the Nobel Prize in any category are ineligible to receive this award.

Institutions and/or organizations are not eligible to receive the award.

AWARD SELECTION
Eligible nominees will be considered by a prestigious Pezcoller Foundation-AACR International Award for Extraordinary Achievement in Cancer Research Selection Committee consisting of an international cohort of renowned cancer leaders appointed by the AACR President in consultation with the Pezcoller Foundation Council.

The Pezcoller Foundation-AACR International Award for Extraordinary Achievement in Cancer Research Selection Committee will consider all nominations as they have been submitted and are restricted from combining submitted nominations, adding new nominees, or otherwise making alterations to any submitted nomination.

Once chosen, the primary and alternate award recipient selections made by the Pezcoller Foundation-AACR International Award for Extraordinary Achievement in Cancer Research Selection Committee shall be sent to the AACR Executive Committee and the Pezcoller Foundation Council for final consideration and ratification.

Selection of the award recipient shall be made on the basis of the candidate's scientific accomplishments without regard to race, gender, nationality, geographic location, or religious or political views.

INQUIRIES
Please direct all inquiries pertaining to this award to Michael J. Powell, PhD, Senior Director of Scientific Programs and Strategic Initiatives, at michael.powell@aacr.org or by phone at (215) 440-9373.

NOMINATION DEADLINE FOR 2025 AWARD
September 15, 2024

NOMINATION PROCESS
Nominations may be submitted by any individual, whether an AACR member or nonmember, who is currently or has previously been affiliated with any institution involved in cancer research, cancer medicine, or cancer-related sciences.

Self-nominations are prohibited.

Nominators must maintain strict confidentiality of their nominations, and all nominations must be submitted electronically to https://myaacr.aacr.org. Paper nominations will not be accepted.

Eligible nominations must include the following:

• A nomination letter written in English (Max: 1000 words), which comprehensively describes the candidate's major scientific discovery in basic cancer research or significant contributions to translational cancer research, and the impact of these accomplishments on the cancer field.

Letter must specifically outline the candidate's current research activity and indicate how their research holds promise for continued substantive contributions to the field. All publications that directly support the mentioned research accomplishments must be referenced within the provided letter.

• A brief scientific citation (Max: 50 words) highlighting the major scientific contribution(s) justifying the award candidate's nomination.