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## HOPE FUNDS FOR CANCER RESEARCH ANNOUNCES A PANEL DISCUSSION ON TRANSLATIONAL CANCER RESEARCH

**NEWPORT, RI -- October 13, 2009** -- The Hope Funds for Cancer Research, an organization dedicated to advancing innovative research for the most difficult-to-treat cancers, today announced its Panel Discussion, "Translational Cancer Research: Opportunities and Challenges; Revisiting Private Funding's Role in Academic Research and Clinical Studies," will take place on November 2, 2009 at 6:00 PM, in New York City at the National Academy of Design.

The Panel discussion will be moderated by Charles V. Baltic III. Mr. Baltic is an investment banker with Needham & Co. in New York City, focusing on the biopharma and life sciences industries. "As participants in the life sciences sector, we are acutely aware of the need for greater coordination and alternate sources of funding to bridge risk and costs as research moves from basic science to validated targets and compounds in a clinical setting," stated Charles Baltic, Trustee of the Hope Funds' board. The Translational Research Panel is an opportunity to bring together both early-career and later-career scientists along with venture capitalists and philanthropists, to discuss this timely topic. Proceeds from the evening help fund postdoctoral fellowships in cancer research. The panelists for the discussion are: Robert Bazell, NBC Chief Science & Health Correspondent and author of "HER-2: The making of Herceptin, a Revolutionary Treatment for Breast Cancer;" Edward A. McDermott, Jr., Director of the Ludwig Institute; Malcolm A. S. Moore, D.Phil, Sloan-Kettering Institute's head of the James Ewing Laboratory of Developmental Hematopoiesis and lead developer of Neupogen; Jon Soderstrom, Ph.D., Managing Director of the Office of Cooperative Research at Yale University; and Sohail Tavazoie, M.D., Ph.D., The Rockefeller University's director of the laboratory of Systems Cancer Biology.

### About the Panelists

#### Robert Bazell

Mr. Bazell is NBC's Chief Science and Health Correspondent. After graduating from the University of California, Berkeley, in 1967 with a B.A. in biochemistry and Phi Beta Kappa honors, he studied biology at the University of Sussex as part of his graduate work before returning to Berkeley to complete his doctoral candidate degree in immunology. Mr. Bazell pursued a dual interest in journalism and science by joining Science magazine in 1971 and writing for its News and Comment section. In 1976, he began a career in broadcast journalism by joining WNBC in New York as a reporter before moving to NBC News, where he was one of the first network news correspondents to report on the emerging AIDS epidemic in the early 1980s. He continues to cover health and science issues for the network. In addition to his television accomplishments, he is the author of HER-2, the acclaimed account of the making of the first targeted cancer drug. Mr. Bazell is the 2008 winner of the Hope Funds for Cancer Research Award of Excellence in Advocacy.

#### Edward McDermott, Jr.

Mr. McDermott is the Executive Director of the Ludwig Institute and Trustee of the Virginia and D.K. Ludwig Fund for Cancer Research, which announced in 2006 it would give six leading US institutions \$20 million cash each, plus stock in a New York real estate holding company, to create the Ludwig Centers. The six centers are located at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute/Harvard Medical School, Johns Hopkins University, Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), Stanford University, and The University of Chicago. The Virginia and D.K. Ludwig Fund for Cancer Research is a foundation created by the late American billionaire, Daniel K. Ludwig.

Mr. Ludwig, who died in 1992, and who strongly believed that cancer was one of humanity's great challenges and that a concerted worldwide effort was needed to conquer the disease. Accordingly, Mr. Ludwig gave the vast majority of his wealth to cancer research. The Virginia and DK Ludwig Fund for Cancer Research is the 2009 winner of the Hope Funds for Cancer Research Award of Excellence in Philanthropy.

**Malcolm A.S. Moore, D.Phil**

Dr. Moore received his Bachelor of Medicine and Doctor of Philosophy degrees from the University of Oxford. Shortly thereafter, he was appointed a Prize Fellow at Magdalen College, Oxford. He was a Queen Elizabeth II Visiting Fellow and Senior Research Scientist and Head of the Laboratory of Developmental Biology at the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research, Melbourne, Australia. Since 1974 he has been a member at the Sloan-Kettering Institute for Cancer Research and heads the James Ewing Laboratory of Developmental Hematopoiesis. He is perhaps best known for identifying and purifying a human growth factor, G-CSF, that stimulates white blood cell production (neutrophils). In collaboration with Amgen, recombinant G-CSF (Neupogen) was developed. This therapy has significantly improved survival in cancer patients. Dr. Moore is the 2008 winner of the Hope Funds for Cancer Research Award of Excellence in Clinical Development.

**Jon Soderstrom, Ph.D.**

Dr. Soderstrom is the Managing Director of the Office of Cooperative Research at Yale University. Since joining the Office in 1996, he has participated in the formation of more than 25 new ventures including polyGenomics, Molecular Staging (acquired by Qiagen), Agilix, Asilas Genomic Systems, Achillion Pharmaceuticals, PhytoCeutica, Protometrix (acquired by Invitrogen), Iconic Therapeutics, Applied Spine Technologies, HistoRx, VaxInnate and Affomix. Collectively, these companies have raised over \$350 million in professional venture capital. Prior to this position, Dr. Soderstrom was the Director of Program Development for Oak Ridge National Laboratory after serving for ten years as Director of Technology Licensing for Martin Marietta Energy Systems. Dr. Soderstrom received his B.A. from Hope College in 1976 and his Ph.D. from Northwestern University in 1980.

**Sohail Tavazoie, M.D., Ph.D.**

Dr. Sohail is an attending physician and assistant professor at Rockefeller University. Dr. Tavazoie graduated from the University of California Berkeley, and received Ph.D. in formation and M.D. degrees from Harvard University. Following a residency and internship in internal medicine at Brigham and Women's Hospital and Harvard Medical School, he joined Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center as a clinical fellow in 2005 and became a research fellow in medical oncology in 2006. He joined Rockefeller University as an assistant professor in 2009. In 2009, Dr. Tavazoie was a recipient of an American Society of Clinical Oncology Young Investigator Award, and was named a Rita Allen Foundation Scholar and a Sidney Kimmel Foundation for Cancer Research Scholar. He has also received a Whitman Scholarship in Health Sciences and Technology from Harvard-MIT. Dr. Tavazoie is the mentor of Hien Thanh Tran, a member of the Hope Funds class of 2009 Postdoctoral Fellows.

**About the Hope Funds for Cancer Research**

The Hope Funds for Cancer Research was formed in 2006 by a group of concerned individuals who have experience in oncology, intellectual property law, investment banking, philanthropy, sociology, and the arts to establish a funding vehicle that would take a rational scientific, medical, and investment approach to granting money to the most interesting and promising research efforts to address the most difficult-to-treat cancers, including pancreatic, lung, liver, sarcomas, esophageal, brain, gastric, and ovarian cancers. These cancers are insidiously aggressive illnesses that kill most of their victims within months, even with aggressive chemotherapy. The Trustees of the Hope Funds for Cancer Research believe that funding research that could lead to breakthroughs in these areas and increase life expectancy in these types of cancers is at the core of the organization's mission. The Hope Funds for Cancer Research is a 509 (a)(1) charity under 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Service's code. For additional information about the organization, please visit <http://www.hope-funds.org> or call at 401-847-3286.

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This event is by invitation. For more information, visit: [www.hope-funds.org/events/](http://www.hope-funds.org/events/)

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