



Press
Release

PRESS RELEASE
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For Immediate Release
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HOPE FUNDS FOR CANCER RESEARCH HOLDS A PANEL DISCUSSION ON TRANSLATIONAL CANCER RESEARCH

NEWPORT, RI -- November 5, 2009 -- The Hope Funds for Cancer Research, an organization dedicated to advancing innovative research for difficult-to-treat cancers, held the first in a series of panel discussions on translational cancer research on November 2nd in New York City.

Four distinguished researchers addressed "Translational Cancer Research: Opportunities and Challenges; Revisiting Private Funding's Role in Academic Research and Clinical Studies," to a sell-out audience at the National Academy of Design.

Moderated by Hope Funds Trustee Charles Baltic, the panelists were: 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.



At the end of the evening, Hope Funds Trustee John E. Parks stated, "This is an extraordinarily important and thought provoking topic, which I believe our guests will continue to contemplate well after this evening is over."

The panelists addressed the need for additional and creative funding sources, the need for biopharma and academic collaboration, having more translational researchers participating in the grant-making process, using clinical trial design that is based on biology addressing specific patient populations and the continued need to keep the most gifted young scientists involved in the field of research.



The Panel Discussion was followed by a Reception and Poster Session with three of the Hope Funds Postdoctoral Fellows: Pedro Medina, Ph.D., from Yale University; Hien Thanh Tran, M.D., Ph.D., from The Rockefeller University; and Eric Sawey, Ph.D., from Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory. The evening raised nearly \$30,000 to help fund postdoctoral fellowships in cancer research.



All photography on this page is courtesy of Julie Skarratt

Photography .

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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