



## Hope Funds for Cancer Research

**Press Release  
For Immediate Release**  
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### Hope Funds for Cancer Research Announces that Dr. Lewis Cantley, Ph.D. has been elected as the new Chairman of the Board

**NEWPORT, RI -- January 27, 2017 --** Hope Funds for Cancer Research, dedicated to advancing innovative research for the most difficult-to-treat cancers, today announced Lewis Cantley, Ph.D., has been elected as the Fourth Chairman of its Board of Trustees.

"Dr. Cantley is an outstanding choice to lead the Hope Funds for Cancer Research Board of Trustees," said Leah Rush Cann, a Hope Funds founder and Chair of its Executive Committee. "His achievements in basic and clinical science along with his expertise in mentoring young scientists make him ideally suited for the role. He has known the organization as a mentor, speaker, and honoree and now can combine those experiences to lead Hope Funds for Cancer Research into its next decade."

Dr. Cantley is currently the Meyer Director of the Sandra and Edward Meyer Cancer Center and a Professor of Cancer Biology in Medicine at Weill Cornell Medicine in New York City. He was formerly a professor in the Departments of Systems Biology and Medicine at Harvard Medical School, and the Director of Cancer Research at the Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, in Boston, Massachusetts. In 1985 Cantley and colleagues made the seminal discovery of the existence of phosphoinositide-3-kinase (PI3K). For this discovery of PI-3-Kinase and its role in cancer metabolism, Dr. Cantley was an inaugural recipient of the Breakthrough Prize in Life Sciences. The growing evidence for a primary role for PI-3-kinase in cancer and its critical role in insulin signaling have served to strengthen the significance of this fundamentally important discovery.

Dr. Cantley received his undergraduate degree *summa cum laude* in chemistry from Wesleyan College and his Ph.D. from Cornell University. He was a postdoctoral fellow at Harvard University in the laboratory of Guido Guidotti, where he discovered that an impurity in commercial preparations of ATP, vanadate, acts as a transition state analog for phosphate hydrolysis. In 1978 Cantley became assistant professor of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology at Harvard, being promoted to associate professor in 1981. In 1985 he became a full professor in physiology at Tufts University School of Medicine.

To view a recent interview with Dr. Cantley at the Hope Funds Gala weekend, [click here](#).

#### **About Lewis Cantley, Ph.D.**

Dr. Cantley is currently the Meyer Director of the Sandra and Edward Meyer Cancer Center and a Professor of Cancer Biology in Medicine at Weill Cornell Medicine in New York City. He was formerly a professor in the Departments of Systems Biology and Medicine at Harvard Medical School, and the Director of Cancer Research at the Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, in Boston, Massachusetts.

In 1985 Cantley and colleagues made the seminal discovery of the existence of phosphoinositide-3-

kinase (PI3K). He In 1985 he became a full professor in physiology at Tufts University School of Medicine. Dr. Cantley received the Life Science Breakthrough Prize in 2013 and the Hope Funds Award of Excellence in Basic Science in 2016.

Dr. Cantley received his undergraduate degree *summa cum laude* in chemistry in 1971 from Wesleyan College and his Ph.D. from Cornell University. He was a postdoctoral fellow at Harvard University in the laboratory of Guido Guidotti, where he discovered that an impurity in commercial preparations of ATP, vanadate, acts as a transition state analog for phosphate hydrolysis. In 1978 Cantley became assistant professor of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology at Harvard, being promoted to associate professor in 1981.

Dr. Cantley is married to Vicki Sato, Ph.D., herself a prominent figure in the pharmaceutical industry and a Professor at Harvard University, and a past speaker at Hope Funds events among many other extraordinary accomplishments.



Dr. Lewis Cantley, Ph.D.

To view a recent interview with Dr. Cantley at the Hope Funds Gala weekend, [click here](#).

#### **About the Hope Funds for Cancer Research**

Hope Funds for Cancer Research is dedicated to finding outstanding cancer discoveries by funding outstanding young cancer researchers. The organization was formed in 2006 to establish a philanthropic vehicle that would take a rational scientific, medical, and investment approach to making grants for the most innovative and promising research efforts to address the most difficult-to-treat cancers, including pancreatic, lung, liver, sarcomas, esophageal, brain, gastric, renal and ovarian cancers, as well as rare leukemias, lymphomas and MDS. 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 young, innovative researchers will lead to breakthroughs in these areas and increase life expectancy for those with these types of cancers. 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 [www.Hope-Funds.org](http://www.Hope-Funds.org) or call 401-847-3286.

*Hope Funds for Cancer Research: Advancing innovative research in understudied cancers*



***Hope Funds for Cancer Research is an independent and unaffiliated non-profit organization***

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