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Hope Funds for Cancer Research

Press Release
For Immediate Release
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Hope Funds for Cancer Research Panel Discussion Highlights a Need for a Unified Theory of Cancer

NEWPORT, RI -- May 9, 2012 -- The Hope Funds for Cancer Research, an organization dedicated to advancing innovative research for difficult-to-treat cancers, held the fourth in a series of panel discussions on innovative cancer research and treatment on May 7th at the Harold Pratt House in New York City. The provocative discussion was for the lay public and featured some of the world's leaders in treatment and research. The event raised nearly \$65,000 towards a postdoctoral fellowship in cancer research.



Four panelists, moderated by NBC chief science correspondent Robert Bazell, addressed the challenges and opportunities for scientists, physicians, and patients to impact revolutionary treatments for patients. The panelists were Dr. Larry Norton, Deputy Physician-in-Chief for Breast Cancer Programs, Dr. Malcolm A.S. Moore a pancreatic cancer survivor and principal investigator in cell biology, Dr. Joan Massagué, principal investigator in cell biology - all at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center and Dr. Frank Slack associate professor at Yale University.



The audience, comprised of physicians, patients, scientists, investors and philanthropists were astonished to learn from Dr. Massagué that 90 percent of people who die of cancer, do not succumb to the primary tumor but to metastases. "The discussion was best summarized by Larry Norton stating that we are gathering enormous amounts of information about cancer, like the observations of the movements of the planets over centuries, but we need a unifying theory similar to Sir Isaac Newton's understanding of gravity to fully comprehend cancer," stated Hope Funds Trustee and Panel moderator Robert Bazell.

The Panel Discussion was followed by a Reception where guests had the opportunity to meet with three of the Hope Funds Postdoctoral Fellows: Server Ertem, Ph.D., from Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center; Jurre Kamphorst, Ph.D. from Princeton University; and Manuel Valiente, Ph.D., from Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center.



The Trustees of the Hope Funds for Cancer Research are especially grateful to the following donors who supported the event:

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All photography is courtesy of Julie Skarratt Photography.

To view additional photos of this event, please [Click here to visit Julie Skarratt's Website](#)

About the Hope Funds for Cancer Research

The Hope Funds for Cancer Research was formed in 2006 to establish a funding vehicle that would take a rational scientific, medical, and investment approach to making grants for 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, 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 or call 401-847-3286.

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

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