



Hope Funds for Cancer Research

**Press Release
For Immediate Release
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Hope Funds for Cancer Research Announces 2015 Program & Dinner

NEWPORT, RI -- February 9, 2015 --Hope Funds for Cancer Research, a charitable organization dedicated to advancing innovative research in the most difficult-to-treat cancers, today announced its 2015 Program Event and Dinner will be held in San Diego, California on Wednesday, March 18th at Rancho Valencia. Chairs for the event are Dr. & Mrs. Antonio J. Grillo-Lopez of Rancho Santa Fe, California.

The organization holds programmatic events to increase awareness of cancer research breakthroughs, and to raise funds for cancer research. "Hope Funds for Cancer Research supports innovative research in cancers that are hardest to treat," stated Executive Committee Chair Leah Rush Cann, "and does this by funding young research scientists at pivotal moments in their careers."

This Panel Discussion on Innovative Cancer Treatment will include San Diego-based drug developer, Daniel P. Gold, Ph.D.; cancer survivor and advocate Gary Jobson; and three young scientists funded by the Hope Funds for Cancer Research, Simon Knott, Ph.D. from Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory; Peter Ly, Ph.D. from the Ludwig Institute for Cancer Research at University of California San Diego; and Nathan Robison, M.D. from Children's Hospital Los Angeles.

About the Panelists

Daniel P. Gold, Ph.D. MEI Pharma

Dr. Gold has been President, Chief Executive Officer and a director of MEI Pharma since April 2010. Previously, Dr. Gold co-founded Theragence, Inc. and Favril, Inc. He was an associate Professor at the Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center in LaJolla, CA from 1991 - 2001. Dr. Gold was a member of the Executive Council of the Sabin Cancer Vaccine Consortium from 2004 to 2006 and a member of the board of directors of the San Diego chapter of the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society from 1998 to 2003. Dr. Gold received a Bachelors degree in biology from University of California Los Angeles and received a Doctorate degree from Tufts University in Pathology/Immunology. He was a postdoctoral fellow at MIT. Dan has been a Trustee of Hope Funds for Cancer Research since 2011.

Gary Jobson ESPN/US SAILING

Mr. Jobson, a cancer survivor and advocate, was the America's Cup Winning Tactician in 1977, sailing on Courageous with Ted Turner. He was elected to the Sailing World Hall of Fame and was inducted into the America's Cup Hall of Fame by the Herreshoff Marine Museum, after having won the Nathanael G. Herreshoff Trophy, US SAILING's most prestigious award. Mr. Jobson was inducted into the National Sailing Hall of Fame. Gary has been the National Chairman of the Leukemia Cup Regatta, the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's sailing program, since 1994. Mr. Jobson is an award-winning journalist and writer. He has been ESPN's sailing commentator since 1985. He is currently President of US SAILING, and covered the 34th America's Cup for NBC. Gary joined the Board of Trustees of the Hope Funds for Cancer Research in 2013.

Simon Knott, Ph.D.**Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory**

Dr. Knott is working in the laboratory of Gregory Hannon, Ph.D. He is working to overcome the shortfalls of single-target therapeutics, by using combinatorial agents targeting critical nodes of multiple pathways. Dr. Knott's research is building methods to identify high efficacy multi-targeted therapeutics. Simon received his B.Sc degree from Queen's University, Canada and his Ph.D. in Computational Biology from University of Southern California. After completing his Ph.D. in 2011, he joined Gregory Hannon's lab as a postdoctoral Fellow. In 2012, Simon became a Hope Funds for Cancer Research Fellow.

Peter Ly, Ph.D.**Ludwig Institute for Cancer Research at UC San Diego**

Dr. Ly is working in the laboratory of Don Cleveland, Ph.D., and is developing novel tissue culture models using human cells to delineate the mechanisms by which rearranged chromosomes are produced. Complex genomic rearrangements affecting one or a handful of chromosome(s) can be detected in a broad range of solid and hematological malignancies, including osteosarcoma, neuroblastoma, and leukemia. Peter received his B.A in Biology from Baylor University and his Ph.D. in Cancer Biology from the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center. He started his postdoctoral Fellowship in Donald Cleveland's lab in 2013 and became a Hope Funds for Cancer Research Fellow in 2014.

Nathan Robison, M.D.**Children's Hospital Los Angeles**

After completing his residency and fellowship at Children's Hospital Los Angeles, Dr. Robison completed an additional fellowship in Pediatric Neuro-Oncology at the Dana-Farber / Children's Hospital Cancer Center in Boston. He served as clinical instructor at Harvard Medical School and attending staff in the Pediatric Neuro-Oncology Program at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and Boston Children's Hospital from 2010 to 2013. In April 2013 he joined the faculty of the University of Southern California Keck School of Medicine as assistant professor of pediatrics, and now serves as attending staff in the Pediatric Neuro-Oncology Program at Children's Hospital Los Angeles. Nathan was a Hope Funds for Cancer Research Postdoctoral Fellow in 2008 and currently serves on the Hope Funds Council of Advisors.

About the Event

This benefit-evening is being held at [Rancho Valencia](#) will start with a Reception on the Sunrise Terrace, which will be followed by the Panel Discussion in the Terrace Ball Room. At the conclusion of the 45 minute Panel Discussion, there will be a short question and answer period, followed by a pool-side Dinner at the Hacienda. Guests will have the opportunity to spend additional time with the Panelists at the conclusion of Dinner. Hope Funds for Cancer Research holds this event annually. Past events have been held in Boston, New York and Newport, RI. For more information on this year's event [Click here to visit Event webpage](#)

About the Hope Funds for Cancer Research

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. 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.

Advancing innovative research in understudied cancers

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

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