



Hope Funds for Cancer Research

**Press Release
For Immediate Release
Media Contact: Arden Scura
(401) 847-3286**

Hope Funds for Cancer Research Panel Discussion & Dinner Highlights Value of Young Researchers

NEWPORT, RI -- August 16, 2014 -- The Hope Funds for Cancer Research, an organization dedicated to advancing innovative research for difficult-to-treat cancers, held the sixth in a series of panel discussions on innovative cancer research and treatment on August 10th at Rosecliff in Newport, RI. The provocative discussion was for the lay public and featured some of the world's leaders in treatment and research. The event was attended by philanthropists, physicians and scientists and was the highlight of a weekend of Hope Funds activities in Newport that raised more than \$70,000 towards a postdoctoral fellowship in cancer research.



Robert Bazell, Dr. Xiaoxing Wang, Dr. Bluma Lesch, Dr. Gina DeNicola, and Dr. Lewis Cantley

"In order to realize the potential of laboratory discoveries made by these young scientists, funding is critically needed from philanthropists like Hope Funds for Cancer Research and the biopharmaceutical industry" concluded Hope Funds Trustee and Panel Moderator Robert Bazell.



The four panelists, moderated by former NBC Chief Science correspondent Robert Bazell, addressed the importance basic science discoveries have for revolutionary treatments for patients and the importance of young scientists in the process. The panelists were Dr. Lewis Cantley the Director of the Sandra and Edward Meyer Cancer Center at Weill Cornell Medical College and New York Presbyterian Hospital, and three Hope Funds Postdoctoral Fellows, Dr. Gina DeNicola from Dr. Cantley's laboratory at Weill Cornell Medical College, Dr. Bluma Lesch from Dr. David Page's laboratory at the Whitehead Institute at MIT, and Dr. Xiaoxing Wang from Dr. William Hahn's laboratory at the Dana Farber Cancer Institute. The audience was astonished to learn from Robert Bazell that most seminal discoveries were made by researchers in their 20s, and to learn that this group of researchers are currently facing an unprecedented scarcity of funding.



Hope Funds Trustee and Panel co-chair, Greg Van Schaack

The evening began with cocktails on the terrace overlooking the ocean and was capped off with a beautiful dinner in the Grand Ball Room of Rosecliff, where guests had the opportunity to meet with seven of the Hope Funds Postdoctoral Fellows.

The Trustees of the Hope Funds for Cancer Research are especially grateful to the following Benefactors and Patrons for their support the event:

Mr. & Mrs. Jeffrey Aroy, Mr. Charles V. Baltic III, Mr. & Mrs. David B. Ford, Dr. & Mrs. David Keefe, Mr. Sam Klein, Mr. Christopher Kotowski & Ms. Bridgett Moore, Dr. & Mrs. Malcolm A.S. Moore, Ms. Sarah Rodgers, Mr. & Mrs. J. Gregory Van Schaack, Mr. & Mrs. Frederick J. Warren

To view additional photos of this event, please see [Photos by Peter Silvia](#).

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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Hope Funds for Cancer Research | 226 Bellevue Avenue, Suite 2 | Newport | RI | 02840