# SAMUEL WAXMAN CANCER RESEARCH FOUNDATION



2011 Annual Report





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### 2011 Annual Report

The Samuel Waxman Cancer Research Foundation is an international organization dedicated to curing and preventing cancer. The Foundation is a pioneer in cancer research, focusing on uncovering the causes of cancer and reprogramming cancer cells. We dedicate ourselves to delivering tailored, minimally toxic treatments to patients. Our mission is to eradicate cancer by bridging the gap between lab science and the patient. Through our collaborative group of world-class scientists, the Institute Without Walls, investigators share information and tools to speed the pace of cancer research. Since our inception in 1976, the Foundation has awarded more than \$75 million to support the work of more than 175 researchers across the globe.

# OUR VISION

For 35 years, the Samuel Waxman Cancer Research Foundation has been a pioneer in tackling cancer at its root and reprogramming cancer cells. Our mission is twofold: to deliver less toxic treatments and to bring faster cures to patients. Enhancing the quality of life for cancer survivors is an important part of the research that we fund, which is why our scientists are looking at the biology of the disease and investigating ways to stop cancer from spreading.

Although current treatment options like chemotherapy and radiation are effective against some cancers, they are not effective against all cancers. Indeed, the harsh treatment options today can leave many survivors with long-term survivorship issues. The Waxman Foundation believes there must be a better way.

Our funded investigators include some of the best scientific minds in cancer research. We support ongoing multi-disciplinary innovative research projects by highly-respected teams of scientists who like to think out-of-the-box in solving a problem. Because their proposals are often considered "high risk" by institutions like the National Cancer Institute, these brilliant researchers might not receive funding for their new approaches to kill cancer cells.

The good news is that the Waxman Foundation has taken risks to invest in these researchers, many of whom have gone on to leverage their initial Waxman seed grant to secure millions of dollars from the National Cancer Institute—which deemed their projects too risky in the first place. Ironic? Perhaps. But this is the unique niche that the Foundation fulfills in cancer research. We've been doing it for 35 years and are very proud of what we have been able to accomplish together with your help. Thank you for joining with us as we envision a world without cancer.



MICHAEL NIERENBERG



SAMUEL WAXMAN, M.D.



GWEN DARIEN

Michael Nierenberg
Chairman

Server Wapman

**Samuel Waxman, M.D.** *Founder and Scientific Director* 

**Gwen Darien** *Executive Director* 

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# YEAR IN REVIEW

JULY 1, 2010 The SWCRF awards more than \$2 million as part of its science grant program.

AUG. 14, 2010 The 7th Annual Hamptons Happening raises more than \$250,000.

SEPT. 14, 2010 Marcia and David Lavipour host a cocktail party with their niece Jennifer Schwab Yanowitz to launch a donor-directed grant in chronic myeloid leukemia.

NOV. 7, 2010 Eleven runners from Team Waxman participate in the ING New York City Marathon and raise more than \$94,000.

NOV. 18, 2010 The 13th Annual Collaborating for a Cure Gala raises nearly \$3.4 million.

JAN. 1, 2011 The SWCRF invites cancer centers across the U.S. to apply for research grants.

JAN. 27, 2011 The Max Cure Foundation partners with the Waxman Foundation to sponsor a grant in pediatric cancer research.

APRIL 1, 2011 Deadline to submit grant proposals.

APRIL 8, 2011 The Millennial Society raises \$92,000 at its annual Spring for a Cure benefit.

MAY 15-16, 2011 The Annual Scientific Review takes place at Apella in the Alexandria Center for Life Science in New York City.

MAY 16, 2011 Donors, board members and stakeholders attend the Annual Scientific Symposium, which also featured Donor Recognition Awards.

JUNE 20, 2011 The 29th Annual Golf Tournament & Dinner at the Creek Club, in Locust Valley, N.Y., raises more than \$130,000.

JUNE 24, 2011 The 2011–2012 SWCRF grant recipients are notified of their awards, which included individual and collaborative grants.







LEFT: BEN HIEGER, BRIANA NIX; RIGHT: MICHAEL WASILEWSKI



DAVID PLOTKIN AND ANNMARIE PLOTKIN WITH Their Children, Max, Alexander and Ella

















JOSH SIEGEL, CAMILLA MARCUS SIEGEL, ALISSA JACOB, SARAH LEMING, BEN LEMING



NORMAN KRAMER, ROBERT IVANHOE, GARY JACOB, LAWRENCE WOLK

# YOUR INVESTMENT IN CANCER RESEARCH

Supporting cancer research is a long-term investment. For scientists, it takes years, even decades (if they're lucky) to see any fruition from the intense labor they pour into their research. The same can be said of donors who commit generous dollars to support the work.

How can donors be certain that their gifts to the Waxman Foundation are making a contribution toward innovative science? One way is the impact that our researchers are making in the cancer community. Some of the scientists who are funded by the SWCRF are cited five to six times more than the average scientist in top scientific journals. What does that mean? The SWCRF is wisely investing donor dollars to scientists who are furthering scientific advances.

We have been able to support the work of NIH-funded scientists who are taking new approaches in reprogramming cancer cells and, developing epigenetic therapies that have the potential to translate into minimally toxic treatments for patients.

Thank you for your dedication and commitment to the Foundation. To show you where your money goes, we have included a brief explanation of your long-term investment in cancer research.

### **COLLABORATIVE GRANTS**

Collaborative grants are awarded to investigators to form ongoing multi-disciplinary teams to move science from the bench to the clinic. In the past, many collaborative grant recipients have gone on to leverage their SWCRF seed grant and apply for and receive additional funding from the National Cancer Institute. In July 2011, the Foundation awarded 18 collaborative grants to researchers around the world studying differentiation therapy, epigenetics and cancer stem cells.

### **INDIVIDUAL GRANTS**

Individual grants from the Foundation are awarded to investigators who study potential novel therapies and conduct basic and translational research in reprogramming cancer cells. In the past, many individual grant recipients have gone on to apply for and receive collaborative grants from the Foundation. In July 2011, the Foundation continued to support the research of the three individual grant recipients from last year, and also added six additional grantees.

### **MOUNT SINAI MEDICAL CENTER**

Since 1976, the Foundation has supported researchers at the SWCRF laboratory in Mount Sinai Medical Center to study gene expression, tumor dormancy, breast cancer research, and hematologic research. Scientists at the Waxman lab have made breakthroughs over the years, including working with Chinese researchers to develop a less toxic therapy to cure acute promyelocytic leukemia (APL) as well as developing a small molecule inhibitor to target a deadly breast cancer known as triple-negative breast cancer.

### SHANGHAI INSTITUTE OF HEMATOLOGY IN CHINA

The Samuel Waxman Cancer Research Foundation was one of the first cancer research foundations to partner with researchers in China in the 1980s. The long-standing collaboration with researchers at the Shanghai Institute of Hematology (SIH) has led to a number of advances in cancer research, including the development of a less toxic therapy to cure APL. Continued support from the Emerald Foundation, Inc. and the Rose M. Badgeley Charitable Trust is helping scientists at the SIH conduct ongoing research to eradicate the leukemia stem cell.

# WHERE YOUR MONEY GOES















**COLLABORATIVE GRANTS** 

55%



INDIVIDUAL GRANTS

26%



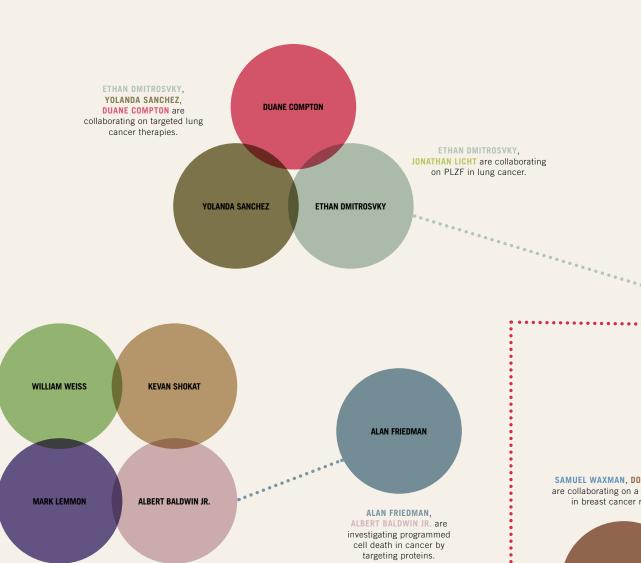
SWCRF LAB AT MOUNT SINAI

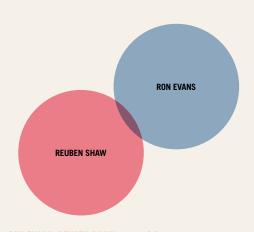
15%

SHANGHAI INSTITUTE OF HEMATOLOGY IN CHINA

4%

# SAMUEL WAXMAN COLL CANCER RESEARCH FOUNDATION





RON EVANS, REUBEN SHAW are studying the molecular mechanisms and the role of inflammation on diet-induced intestinal cancer.

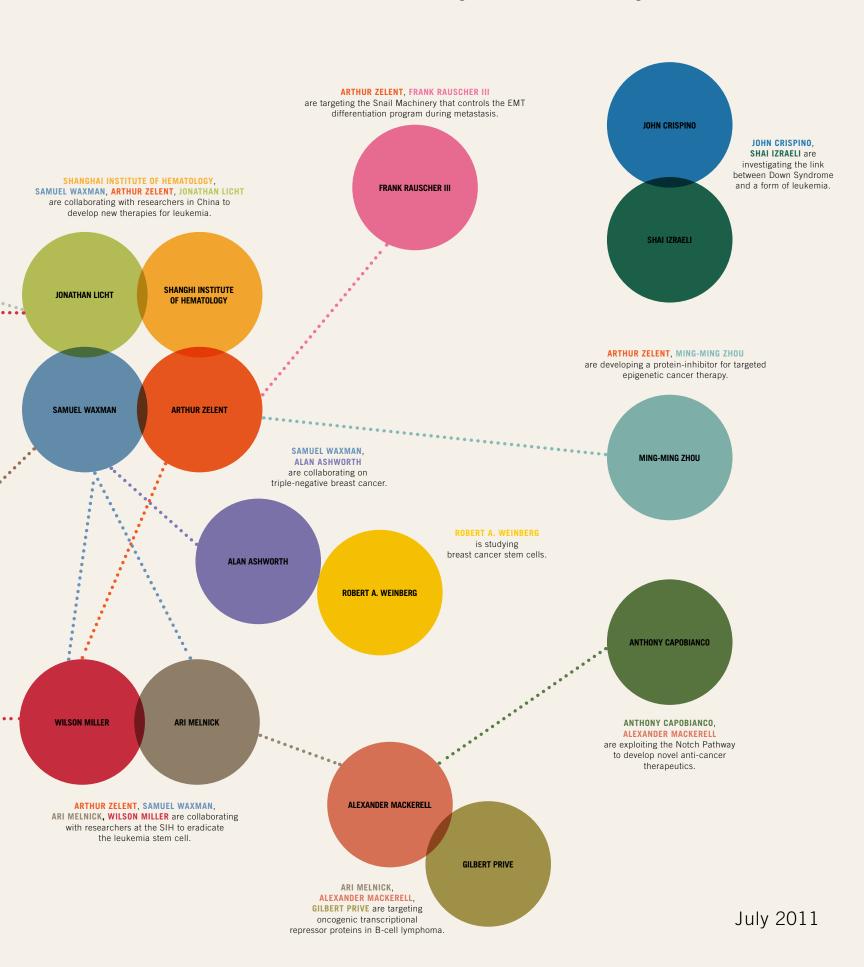
WILLIAM WEISS, KEVAN SHOKAT, MARK LEMMON, ALBERT BALDWIN JR. are studying a family of proteins in a deadly form of brain cancer.



**WILSON MILLER, JONATHAN LICHT** are studying oncoproteins in blood cancers.

# ABORATING FOR A CURE

The Samuel Waxman Cancer Research Foundation believes collaboration drives innovation and brings faster cures to patients. These are some of the ways that members of our Institute Without Walls are working together to make breakthroughs in cancer research.



### WHAT WE DO

Cancer is not one disease. Hundreds of types of cancer exist, if not more. And so our scientists are studying the biology of cancer to tackle the disease at its root. They are analyzing how different genes and enzymes affect cancer's growth.

Which is why, "when our Scientific Advisory Board evaluates and recommends research grants for funding, they do so keeping in mind the big picture, and how each grant will support and add to the Foundation's body of work," explained Jonathan Licht, M.D., an Associate Scientific Director of the SWCRF.

"At times, people don't understand what we do because the Waxman Foundation is not driven to fund research in one type of cancer," said Gwen Darien, the Foundation's Executive Director. "It's not that we don't support research in specific programs, because we do fund research in breast cancer, brain cancer, colon cancer, leukemias, lung cancer, and pancreatic cancer. But the overlapping theme of funded projects must align with our mission to reprogram cancer cells."

How is the Waxman Foundation furthering cancer research? By fostering collaboration between scientists across geographical borders and across multiple disciplines.

"Grants only receive additional funding for subsequent years if scientists have demonstrated that they collaborated with other members of the Institute Without Walls," explained Samuel Waxman, M.D., the Founder and Scientific Director of the SWCRF. "Our definition of collaboration is not merely sharing cell lines and mouse models. We have molecular biologists working together with structural chemists and oncologists to identify novel therapies and new targets."

Not only that, but much of the research that Waxmanfunded investigators are working on has the potential to be applied in other types of cancer because they are looking at enzymes, tumor markers and pathways that cross over into different types of leukemia and in some cases, even solid tumors.

When cancer develops, it's because the built-in instructions within cells to differentiate are not followed, explained Waxman. Scientists funded by the Waxman Foundation are trying to reverse that process, whether it's by flipping a genetic switch to reprogram that cancer cell to stop growing or by designing small molecules that block that message from being sent.

"The scientific process is laborious and often met with frustration when experiments don't lead to immediate success," said Ethan Dmitrovsky, M.D., who is an Associate Scientific Director of the SWCRF. "But the Waxman Foundation is committed to translating basic research to the cancer community and bringing faster cures to patients. Indeed, the Foundation is uniquely situated to bridging this gap between bench and bedside."

The nimble nature of the Foundation to identify and to fund research projects that have the high potential for important gains in cancer research is what sets it apart, said Darien. "I can honestly say that we support cutting-edge research by some of the best scientists in the world."

"The future of making progress in cancer research lies in members of the cancer community coming together to find cures across all disease types," said Waxman. "This is the vision behind what we do, which I believe is the most effective way to bringing about a world without cancer."

















### **BRAIN CANCER PROGRAM**

Albert S. Baldwin, Jr., Ph.D., *University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill* Mark Lemmon, Ph.D., *University of Pennsylvania* Kevan Shokat, Ph.D., *University of California, San Francisco* William Weiss, M.D., Ph.D., *University of California, San Francisco* 

### **COLON CANCER PROGRAM**

Ronald M. Evans, Ph.D., Salk Institute Reuben Shaw, Ph.D., Salk Institute

### **LIVER CANCER PROGRAM**

Stephen Baylin, M.D., *Johns Hopkins University*Paul B. Fisher, M.Ph., Ph.D., *Virginia Commonwealth University*Josep M. Llovet, M.D., *Mount Sinai Medical Center*Devanand Sarkar, M.B.B.S., Ph.D., *Virginia Commonwealth University*Samuel Waxman, M.D., *Mount Sinai Medical Center* 

### PANCREATIC CANCER PROGRAM

Nabeel Bardessy, Ph.D., *Massachusetts General Hospital* Paul B. Fisher, M.Ph., Ph.D., *Virginia Commonwealth University* 

### **CANCER STEM CELL PROGRAM**

Julio Aguirre-Ghiso, Ph.D., Mount Sinai Medical Center
Nabeel Bardeesy, Ph.D., Massachusetts General Hospital
Stephen Baylin, M.D., Johns Hopkins University
Ravi Bhatia, M.D., City of Hope
Robert A. Casero, Ph.D., Johns Hopkins University
Margaret Goodell, Ph.D., Baylor College of Medicine
Benjamin G. Neel, M.D., Ph.D., Ontario Cancer Institute
Yolanda Sanchez, Ph.D., Dartmouth School of Medicine
Robert A. Weinberg, Ph.D., Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research
Cynthia Zahnow, Ph.D., Johns Hopkins University

### MOUNT SINAI MEDICAL CENTER SWCRF LABORATORY

Julio Aguirre-Ghiso, Ph.D., Mount Sinai Medical Center Eduardo Farias, Ph.D., Mount Sinai Medical Center Doris Germain, Ph.D., Mount Sinai Medical Center Yongkui Jing, Ph.D., Mount Sinai Medical Center Boris Leibovitch, Ph.D., Mount Sinai Medical Center Samuel Waxman, M.D., Mount Sinai Medical Center

### **MELANOMA PROGRAM**

Paul B. Fisher, M.Ph., Ph.D., Virginia Commonwealth University Neal Rosen, M.D., Ph.D., Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center

### **OVARIAN CANCER**

Benjamin G. Neel, M.D., Ph.D., *Ontario Cancer Institute* Garry P. Nolan, Ph.D., *Stanford University School of Medicine* 

### **BREAST CANCER PROGRAM**

Alan Ashworth, Ph.D., Institute of Cancer Research
Albert S. Baldwin, Jr., Ph.D., University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
Stephen Baylin, M.D., Johns Hopkins University
Robert A. Casero, Ph.D., Johns Hopkins University
Eduardo Farias, Ph.D., Mount Sinai Medical Center
Doris Germain, Ph.D., Mount Sinai Medical Center
Wilson Miller, M.D., Ph.D., Jewish General Hospital
Samuel Waxman, M.D., Mount Sinai Medical Center
Robert A. Weinberg, Ph.D., Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research
Cynthia Zahnow, Ph.D., Johns Hopkins University
Arthur Zelent, Ph.D., Institute of Cancer Research
Ming-Ming Zhou, Ph.D., Mount Sinai School of Medicine

### **LUNG CANCER PROGRAM**

Duane Compton, Ph.D., Dartmouth Medical School Ethan Dmitrovsky, M.D., Dartmouth Medical School Gerard Evan, Ph.D., University of California, San Francisco Yolanda Sanchez, Ph.D., Dartmouth Medical School Jeffrey Settleman, Ph.D., Genentech

DEVELOPING EPIGENETIC THERAPY SIH/SWCRF Co-PI PROGRAM CHILDHOOD AND YOUNG ADULT CANCERS Samuel Latman Cancer TUMOR DORMANCY

### TUMOR DORMANCY PROGRAM

Julio Aguirre-Ghiso, Ph.D., Mount Sinai Medical Center Eduardo Farias, Ph.D., Mount Sinai Medical Center

### CHILDHOOD AND YOUNG ADULT CANCERS

Albert Baldwin, Jr., Ph.D., University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
James E. Bradner, M.D., Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
Anthony Capobianco, Ph.D., University of Miami
John D. Crispino, Ph.D., Northwestern University
Alan Friedman, M.D., Johns Hopkins University
Christopher A. French, M.D., Brigham and Women's Hospital
Shai Izraeli, M.D., Tel Aviv University
Scott Hiebert, Ph.D., Vanderbilt University
Mark Lemmon, Ph.D., University of Pennsylvania
Kevan Shokat, Ph.D. University of California, San Francisco
Erwin G. Van Meir, Ph.D., Emory University School of Medicine
William Weiss, M.D., Ph.D., University of California, San Francisco

### SIH/SWCRF CO-PI PROGRAM

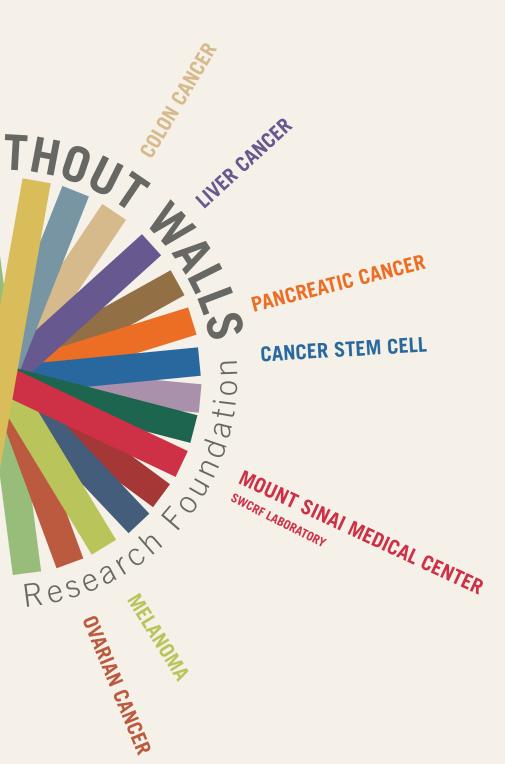
Sai-Juan Chen, M.D., Ph.D. Shanghai Institute of Hematology Zhu Chen, M.D., Ph.D. Shanghai Institute of Hematology

### **DEVELOPING EPIGENETIC THERAPY**

Stephen Baylin, M.D., Johns Hopkins University Anthony Capobianco, Ph.D., University of Miami Robert A. Casero, Ph.D., Johns Hopkins University Sai-Juan Chen, Ph.D., Shanghai Institute of Hematology John D. Crispino, M.D., Northwestern University Ronald M. Evans, Ph.D., Salk Institute Alan Friedman, M.D., Johns Hopkins University Margaret Goodell, Ph.D., Baylor College of Medicine Scott Hiebert, Ph.D., Vanderbilt University Shai Izraeli, M.D., Tel Aviv University Yongkui Jing, Ph.D., Mount Sinai Medical Center Craig T. Jordan, Ph.D., University of Rochester Jonathan D. Licht, M.D., Northwestern University Alexander MacKerell, Ph.D., University of Maryland Ari Melnick, M.D., Weill Cornell School of Medicine Wilson Miller, M.D., Ph.D., Jewish General Hospital Kevin Petrie, Ph.D., Institute of Cancer Research Gilbert Privé, Ph.D., University of Toronto Frank J. Rauscher III, Ph.D., Wistar Institute Ruibao Ren, M.D., Ph.D., Brandeis University Samuel Waxman, M.D., Mount Sinai Medical Center Yue Xiong, Ph.D., University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill Arthur Zelent, Ph.D., Institute of Cancer Research, London Ming-Ming Zhou, Ph.D., Mount Sinai School of Medicine

### **BLOOD MALIGNANCIES**

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### letter from the development chair

When you invest in cancer research, you are investing in the future—not just your own future, but the future of your children, your grandchildren and generations to come. Every dollar you give to the Waxman Foundation helps us bring about such a future, that is, a world without cancer.

At times it's hard for us to imagine that future when we lose loved ones to the disease. But please know that your generous donations and commitment to the Foundation are helping to make great strides in cancer research as scientists uncover more about the disease; investigating ways to reprogram and kill cancer cells.

It's amazing how far we have come in expanding our knowledge about cancer and developing effective therapies. The Waxman Foundation has played an important role in this effort for 35 years. We thank you for your continued support in our endeavor.

> -Gary Jacob Development Chair

### THANK YOU

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Occasionally, despite our best efforts, errors do occur. If we have made mistakes, we sincerely apologize in advance. You can alert us of such errors by contacting our office at 212.867.4502.

Please note that we make every effort to follow the donor's preferences when compiling the annual report list. If you would prefer to have your name listed differently in the future, please let us know

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# FINANCIAL STATEMENT

(Unaudited) July 1, 2010-June 30, 2011

Revenue Contributions Program Grants Fundraising Income (Net of Expense) Investment Income Total Revenue	550,000 1,080,000 1,891,000 175,000 \$3,696,000	
Expense		
Program Services	\$2,897,000	
Fundraising	250,000	
Management and General	720,000	
Total Expense	\$3,867,000	
Surplus/(Deficit)	(\$171,000)	
Net Assets	\$6,452,000	

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