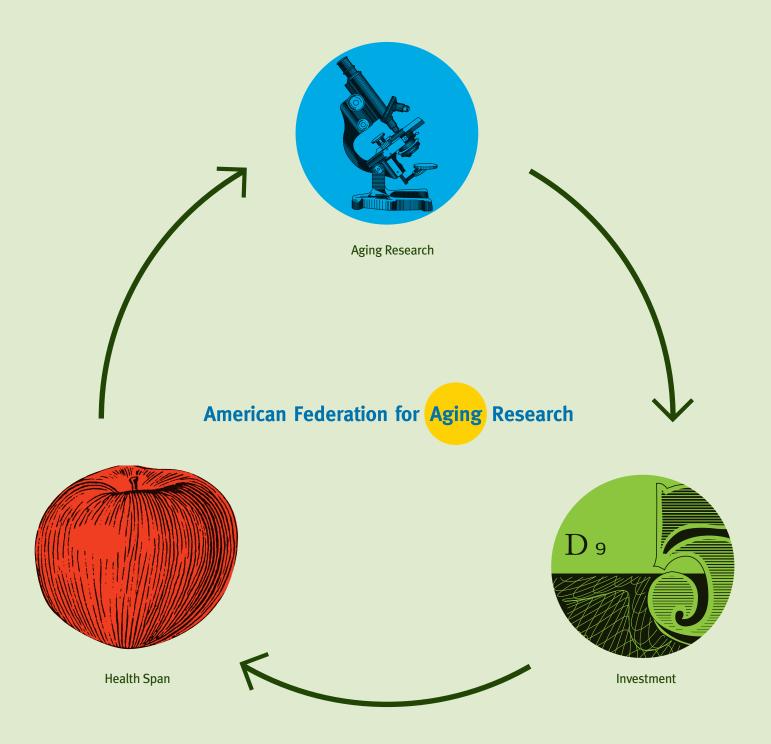
INVESTING IN FUTURES





ABOUT THE AMERICAN FEDERATION FOR AGING RESEARCH

The American Federation for Aging Research (AFAR) is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to support biomedical research on aging.

AFAR fulfills its mission by:

- Supporting research that furthers our understanding of aging processes and associated diseases and disorders;
- Building a cadre of scientists engaged in aging research and clinicians trained in geriatric medicine;
- Offering opportunities for scientists and physicians to exchange new ideas and knowledge about aging; and
- Promoting awareness among the general public about the importance of aging research.

Since 1981, AFAR has awarded more than \$113 million to nearly 2,500 talented scientists as part of its broadbased series of grant programs. AFAR's work has led to significant advances in the understanding of aging processes, age-related diseases, and healthy aging practices. AFAR communicates news of these innovations to the public through our consumer newsletter *Lifelong*, organizational website www.afar.org, and two educational websites, Infoaging (www.infoaging.org) and Health Compass (www.healthcompass.org).

AFAR mourns the passing and celebrates the lives of these generous individuals, who were tireless leaders in the support of aging research and AFAR. Their dedication to our nation's scientists has made an impact on the pace of geriatrics research, teaching, and practice that will continue to benefit the health of all of us for many years to come.

Mark H. Beers, MD
Past President, AFAR and
Founding Chair, AFAR Florida

Frederick L. Bissinger
Long-time supporter of AFAR

Marie J. Doty Beloved wife of AFAR Board Member George E. Doty

Fredric B. Garonzik Emeritus Director, AFAR

Joshua Lederberg, PhD
Noble laureate and supporter of AFAR

Paul G. Rogers *Board Member, AFAR*

I like to think of AFAR as a kind of investment house a financial incubator of young scientific talent whose work is at the leading edge of discovery in the science of aging. AFAR funding so often propels the promising work of these investigators, the best and brightest in the field, to the next breakthrough. And for all of us, the return on our investment is extraordinary—a longer, healthier life.

Diana Jacobs Kalman, Chair, AFAR Board of Directors

AN APPRECIATION

MARK H. BEERS, MD
PAST PRESIDENT, AFAR
FOUNDING CHAIR,
AFAR FLORIDA
(1954-2009)

If there ever was an example of how one person can make a difference for so many, it was Mark Beers. Dr. Beers was a tireless advocate for the support of aging research and junior investigators entering the field. He was instrumental in the creation of the Merck/AFAR **Junior Investigator Awards in Geri**atric Clinical Pharmacology, which provided two-year awards for those with an interest in geriatric medicine and the role of clinical pharmacology as it related to the care of the aged. In addition, Dr. Beers developed the Merck/AFAR Research Scholarships in Geriatric Pharmacology for Medical and Pharmacy Students, offering these students an opportunity to explore the field of geriatric pharmacology and acquire an understanding of its challenges.

Dr. Beers served as a member of the AFAR board of directors beginning in 1997, providing leadership as a member of the executive committee from 1998-2006 and as president from 2005-2006. Most recently he served as chair of the AFAR Florida Affiliate chapter, established in Miami, Florida in 2008, contributing greatly to the success of the AFAR Florida Affiliate.

His hard work and unselfish devotion of time and energy helped establish the credibility of the study of aging and the work of AFAR. It is a lasting tribute to Dr. Beers and to his career in the field of geriatric medicine.

INVESTING IN RESEARCH, INVESTING IN HEALTH

Twenty percent of the population—an estimated 76 million people—will be 65 years of age and older by 2030. Healthier aging will make a big difference on health outcomes and costs, alleviating a looming financial strain on America's economy and an emotional strain on families. New treatments that could delay the onset and progression of Alzheimer's disease by five years, for example, could save an estimated \$50 billion per year in health care costs in addition to sparing patients and their families' subsequent emotional, physical, and financial stress.

AFAR believes that a critical strategy for learning how to prevent and treat the diseases and disabilities of aging is to focus on understanding aging processes. Supporting research on how we age offers the potential to improve public health to a far greater extent than research examining one disease at a time.

AFAR has been at the forefront of a revolutionary approach to the science of healthier aging by supporting research on aging and encouraging investigators to pursue careers in geriatric medicine.

SUPPORTING THE SCIENCE OF AGING

Research on the fundamental processes of aging builds over time, yielding long-term dividends that continue to grow. In the nearly three decades since AFAR was founded, these "longevity" dividends have enhanced our understanding of aging processes and age-related diseases and disorders, translating into advances that are moving from bench to clinic offering potential treatments to delay, prevent, and treat common and debilitating diseases of aging.

Understanding aging processes can lead the way to a greater understanding of all age-related diseases, as well as the interplay of genes, hormones, diet, and the environment. For several decades, researchers have focused on individual diseases such as cancer, heart disease, and Alzheimer's disease as a way to extend healthy life. Yet these three diseases and many others are essentially diseases of aging. By focusing on the broader connection between aging and disease, researchers may ultimately find ways to extend healthy life.

INVESTING IN CAREERS

AFAR nurtures and advances the careers of both MD and PhD investigators in the study of the basic biology of aging and age-related diseases. AFAR also invests in programs that prepare medical students for careers in geriatric medicine and supports physician-scientists who devote their careers to advancing scientific knowledge and strategies for effective prevention and management of age-related diseases and disabilities. AFAR has chosen grantees that have gone on to stellar academic careers in aging research, teaching, and clinical practice.

AFAR also convenes conferences on emerging scientific and health issues, provides forums for scientific exchange and mentorship resources for grantees, and collaborates with international foundations and corporations on professional and public education programs.

PUBLIC EDUCATION

AFAR communicates news of the science behind healthier aging through a variety of ways: media briefings that allow journalists to report on news about AFAR's work, public education initiatives designed to address societal issues about aging and promote healthier aging, and two consumer websites that inform the public about healthy aging practices based on the latest scientific research, Infoaging (www.Infoaging.org) and Health Compass (www.Healthcompass.org).

TAKING THE LONG VIEW

The changing political landscape, with its commitment to science, while promising, is still an uncertainty for scientists just entering the field and those considering a career in aging research. To find ways to slow the progression or cure the diseases of aging takes years of commitment by our nation's scientists and physicians. AFAR seeks to fill the gap but each year we receive five to seven times as many qualified research proposals as we are able to fund.

We need to continue to nurture the research base that will be necessary to ensure the health of millions of older people. Serious gaps in biomedical and clinical research are placing the healthy aging and independence of older people at risk. It takes financial commitment from the public and private sectors to maintain the scientific and clinical innovation that a growing aging population demands. Investing in aging research is cost-effective and provides solid growth, because the strength of AFAR's investments is its people. And that never loses value.

Progress in medicine can only be made through the support of our nation's scientists. The research AFAR and its partners have funded is already helping with the development of new technologies and new treatments to improve public health. We are proud of our association with AFAR and its mission.

Jean-Luc Vanderheyden, PhD, Global Molecular Imaging Leader, GE Healthcare

INVESTING IN FUTURES

AFAR relies on partnerships with foundations, corporations, individuals, and the National Institute on Aging (NIA), to fund research that might otherwise not have a chance to fully develop into something promising. These partnerships have allowed us to expand, diversify, and increase our funding for new research.

In addition to our flagship AFAR Research Grant program, which funds early-career researchers, our series of grants also support mid-career scientists who often are forced to abandon years of research as their sources of funding disappears. The Julie Martin Mid-Career Awards in Aging Research and the Glenn/AFAR Breakthroughs in Gerontology (BIG) Awards, generously supported by The Ellison Medical Foundation and the Glenn Foundation for Medical Research, respectively, have made this possible. These awards support higher-risk research that has great potential in advancing our understanding of basic aging.

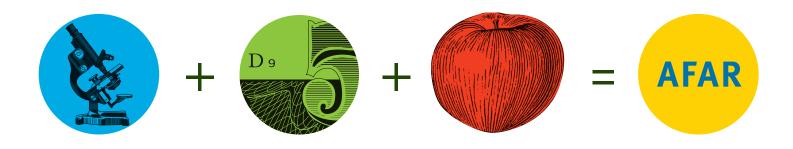
AFAR programs also address growing public health needs. Along with The John A. Hartford Foundation, AFAR developed the Medical Student Training in Aging Research (MSTAR) Program to introduce and train medical students in geriatric medicine, a much needed area of expertise (see box on page 10).

From the Albert Einstein College of Medicine to the Mayo Clinic to Washington University, and hundreds of other institutions across the country, AFAR finds and funds the best science and the most promising scientists.

Most important is that AFAR helps launch the careers of thousands of scientists, many of whom go on to make important discoveries, distinguish themselves as leaders in the field, chair departments, and run labs at major academic institutions.

RATING CHARITIES: AFAR SCORES HIGHEST

AFAR's impact and low administrative expenses have secured a four-star ranking—the highest possible—from Charity Navigator, an independent evaluator of the nation's charities. AFAR has a track record of excellence demonstrating that donor dollars go toward its mission of supporting research on aging.



We work with AFAR because we know that they will identify the best science and the most innovative research; the kind that will break new ground in our understanding of aging. The research AFAR and its partners have funded has already achieved great impact: helping with the development of new technologies and new treatments to improve public health.

Mark R. Collins, President, Glenn Foundation for Medical Research

THE STRENGTH OF AFAR'S INVESTMENTS: ITS PEOPLE

AFAR continues to support some of the world's most exciting science. Our brain trust of 2,500 researchers is making key contributions in many emerging areas, including how:

- stem cell biology may be employed in the repair of aging tissues and organs;
- subtle vitamin and mineral deficiencies can increase the damaging effects of free radicals;
- identification of genes involved in aging can lead to medications for the amelioration of destructive aging processes; and
- senescence-retarding therapies such as dietary restriction might enhance the effectiveness and minimize the side-effects of cancer chemotherapy.

The strength of our people also includes the scientists who make up our renowned two-tiered review process. The AFAR National Scientific Advisory Council (NSAC), consisting of more than 300 of the nation's leading researchers in aging and age-related fields, volunteer their time and carefully consider each proposal's scientific merit. Members of this diverse panel screen, read, and score the applications before referring them to the AFAR Research Committee—currently chaired by Roger McCarter, PhD, professor of Biobehavioral Health at Pennsylvania State University—which renders the final selections. Steven Austad, PhD, professor, University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio, Barshop Institute for Longevity and Aging Studies, leads the review of AFAR's postdoctoral grants programs.

Another of AFAR's greatest assets lies in the volunteer leadership of our board of directors. Led by Diana Jacobs Kalman, they are energetic supporters for aging research both in the scientific community and in the public arena. In 2008, AFAR welcomed three new board members: Marie A. Bernard, MD, deputy director of the National Institute on Aging, Mikhail Y. Gurfinkel, JD, managing director of Basic Element, and Kevin J. Lee, PhD, deputy executive director of The Ellison Medical Foundation. William J. Lipton, JD, CPA, former vice chair of tax services at Ernst & Young LLP, was elected as chair of the AFAR board. His term will begin in January, 2010.

In developing novel programs to fund emerging scientists focused on aging research, AFAR provides a model for organizations around the world and develops international partnerships to improve aging science.

Terrie Fox Wetle, PhD
AFAR President and Associate Dean of Medicine for Public Health
and Public Policy at Brown University

MARK S. LACHS,

MD, MPH

PROTECTING THE MOST VULNERABLE

Unlike child abuse, there is no standard procedure for detecting abuse of older people, with many of the symptoms often misdiagnosed as an age-related illness.

Mark S. Lachs, MD, MPH, director of Geriatrics at New York Presbyterian Health System, one of the first recipients of the Paul Beeson Career Development Award in Aging Research, and an AFAR board member, dedicates his work to addressing elder abuse, a serious issue that often goes unreported and underrecognized.

As a leader in geriatric medicine, Dr. Lachs is confronted with the challenge of uncovering the victims of elder abuse, a difficult problem to identify as older adults are generally silent about their maltreatment and may not be seen day to day by outside observers. This challenge poses special considerations in the exam room.

A long-term relationship and sense of trust between physician and patient is essential in overcoming this barrier. Dr. Lachs maintains that his role as physician is extremely

important in identifying and raising awareness about elder abuse among the general public and other clinicians. In doing so, Dr. Lachs has become a consummate advocate for combating elder abuse.

In addition to the challenges presented in the clinic, there is a shortage of geriatricians trained to recognize elder abuse. The outlook is hopeful and although seriously hampered by the ever-present challenge of funding, elder abuse has evolved into a credible area of research. His role as professor of Medicine at the Weill Medical College of Cornell University, allows him to mentor medical students entering the field of geriatric medicine and sensitize them to any mistreatment of elderly patients.

Dr. Lachs has made incredible strides in advancing knowledge about elder abuse, much of which he attributes to funding received from AFAR. This knowledge, coupled with his research and clinical experience, helps him work against ageism and the perception that older people are expendable.



ANA MARIA CUERVO, MD, PHD

TALKING TRASH

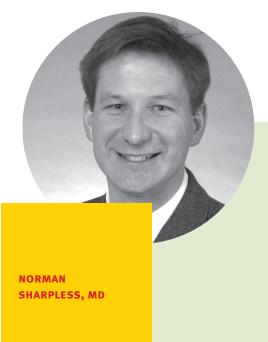
Taking out the trash is usually not something to get excited about.
But for Ana Maria Cuervo, MD, PhD, an AFAR Research Grant recipient and the first recipient of the Vincent Cristofalo Rising Star in Aging Research Award, taking out the trash, the cellular trash that is, couldn't be more of a thrill.

Dr. Cuervo's interest in aging research and her specific field of focus stems from her experiences in medical school when she became interested in why some people age so well while others seem to age so poorly. Her work as a predoctoral fellow with Dr. Erwin Knecht at the Valencia University (Spain) and as postdoctoral fellow with Dr. Fred Dice at Tufts University introduced her to the field of protein turnover and in particular to lysosomes and the dramatic consequences the loss of function these organelles have on cells and organisms. Dr. Cuervo brought her enthusiasm to the lab at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine of Yeshiva University where she is an associate professor in the Departments of Developmental and Molecular Biology and of Medicine. Her work and that of her colleagues has produced astounding insight and potential interventions for diseases associated with aging such as Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease, and even cancer and diabetes.

Aging is characterized primarily by the decline of function in various cellular and molecular systems in the body. These changes are influenced by three factors: genetics, metabolism, and the environment. The focus in Dr. Cuervo's lab is on the metabolic changes and resulting damage from these changes that are experienced with age, specifically damage to proteins. Every person experiences this damage to some degree, regardless of their age, but when it comes to repairing or removing the damage, the difference between young and old is clear. In younger people, the damaged or misfolded proteins can be repaired by what are known as chaperone proteins. Yet, like an old car, proteins that have undergone too much repair are not worth maintaining and so they are transported by the chaperone to the lysosome as "trash" where they bind to a receptor and undergo autophagy (literally, self-eating) inside the organelle. Dr. Cuervo's research focuses on this pathway and how a major decline in its functionality is seen in older organisms.

Dr. Cuervo hopes that her findings could result in the production of a drug that would prevent the decline of the lysosomal function with age, and thus prevent (or at least delay) many of these devastating diseases of aging from occurring altogether.

It would seem that "taking out the trash" isn't such a bad job after all.



THE CANCER-AGING PARADOX

Aging is accompanied by a decrease in the body's ability to regenerate and replace lost or damaged cells. Cancer, on the other hand, is the result of unrestrained cellular growth. Yet cancer is more common in older people. Why this contradiction? The answers are not yet clear but the intimate connection between cancer and aging is driving research into how one affects the other.

Norman Sharpless, MD, associate professor in the Departments of Medicine and Genetics at the University of North Carolina School of Medicine, who is also a recipient of the Paul Beeson Career Development Award in Aging Research, is one of the researchers studying cancer and aging.

The protein p16INK4a (p16), acts as a tumor suppressor gene and is known for its role in preventing cancer. Sharpless' lab has suggested, however, that in the performance of its beneficial, anti-cancer function, p16 may also contribute to a dark side of tumor suppression: aging. He and colleagues have shown that a marked increase in p16 activity with aging causes certain cells to lose their ability to replicate, a hallmark of aging. Ongoing studies are trying to determine if p16 can be used as a biomarker of molecular

aging to examine the efficacy of antiaging therapeutics, forecast future diseases, or identify agents that cause aging. Increased levels of the protein have also been linked to Type II diabetes, a disease affecting 20 million Americans.

The Sharpless lab has been studying the expression of p16 in human aging. Individuals who exercise appear to age in molecular terms more slowly than individuals who are inactive, at least based on this marker of aging. Likewise, smoking appears to accelerate molecular aging. His group has also shown a strong genetic correlation with p16 expression suggesting that an individual's rate of molecular aging is in part genetically programmed. Of interest, the Sharpless lab has shown that there is remarkable human variability in the expression of the gene, which plays a diverse role in cancer and aging.

Ongoing work in the Sharpless lab seeks to identify what causes p16 expression to increase with aging; or more precisely, what causes molecular aging. His group is currently collaborating with several clinical investigators to study the relationship of molecular age and onset of age-related diseases such as diabetes and atherosclerosis.

GRANTS UPDATE

During the past year, AFAR awarded a combined \$13 million to 188 early-career and mid-career scientists, and medical students.

In 2008, we had a particularly exciting year. Some highlights include:

The Glenn Foundation for Medical Research, founded by philanthropist Paul F. Glenn, announced a \$5 million commitment to AFAR to provide grants to scientists studying the biology of aging and age-related diseases. The Glenn Foundation funds will go toward the AFAR Research Grant Program and the Glenn/AFAR Breakthroughs in Gerontology Awards.

The AFAR Research Grants have increased to \$75,000. These grants provide up to 15 junior faculty (MDs and PhDs) with one-to-two-year awards to study topics related to the basic mechanisms of aging, agerelated diseases, and the processes underlying common geriatric functional disorders. In 2008, 15 grants were awarded. Information about these and other AFAR Research Grant recipients can be found on the AFAR website at www.afar.org.

Five researchers were awarded The Rosalinde and Arthur Gilbert Foundation/AFAR New Investigator Awards in Alzheimer's Disease, created to address the much needed research into the biological, genetic, and environmental causes of Alzheimer's disease. The \$60,000 research grants provide a broad array of funding for research that investigates the causes and progression of Alzheimer's, including the basic mechanisms of aging, genetics, biomarkers, inflammation, and the impact of exercise and the environment. This grant program, which supports scientists in the United States and Israel, was renewed for 2009 and has increased to \$75,000 for each grantee. Up to five one- to two- year grants will be awarded.

Holly Van Remmen, PhD, associate professor, University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio, and Brian Kennedy, PhD, associate professor, University of Washington, received the Julie Martin Mid-Career Awards in Aging Research with funding of nearly \$550,000 each. Sponsored solely by The Ellison Medical Foundation, the award provides funding for mid-career scientists engaged in research that has the potential for higher yield in advancing understanding of basic mechanisms of aging. Dr. Van Remmen is studying the relationship between muscle atrophy and alterations in the neuromuscular junctions. Dr. Kennedy is working to identify longevity genes that are likely to modulate aging in mammalian organisms. One such gene is SIR2, which when overexpressed, has been found to extend lifespan in yeast, worms, and flies, and to delay the onset of many age-related diseases in mice.

TRAINING
TOMORROW'S
LEADERS
TODAY

AFAR and its partners created the Medical Student Training in Aging Research (MSTAR) Program, which provides medical students with a focused eight-to twelve-week research and clinical experience in geriatrics and aging-related research, under the supervision of assigned mentors from some of the nation's leading academic institutions. The program has grown steadily since its inception in 1994, with more than 1,300 scholarships awarded. In 2008, the program supported 136 scholars. The greatest indicator of the MSTAR Program's success are the former scholars who have gone on to successful careers in geriatrics education, research, and clinical care. They in turn serve as educators to their peers, mentors to junior faculty and medical students, and ambassadors to encourage others to enter the field. In addition to The John A. Hartford Foundation, the first supporter of the MSTAR Program, sponsors include: the NIA, Community Health Foundation of Western and Central New York, and the Lillian R. Gleitsman Foundation.

Thirteen scientists were recipients of the Paul Beeson Career Development Awards in Aging Research, receiving a combined total of \$10 million. This highly competitive and prestigious award seeks to create a cadre of clinically-trained faculty who are committed to research, teaching, and practice. Beeson Scholars are engaged in clinically relevant groundwork in many areas related to aging, including the biology of aging, age-related diseases, as well as health services and clinical management issues, with the aim of enhancing the health and quality of life of older adults. Through a partnership with the NIA, Scholars receive \$600,000 to \$800,000 for a three- to five-year period, allowing them flexible and protected time for research. Other funders include The Atlantic Philanthropies, The John A. Hartford Foundation, The Starr Foundation and an anonymous donor. Additional information about the program can be found at www. beeson.org.

Thomas Rando, MD, PhD, professor, Stanford University, and Yuji Ikeno, MD, PhD, assistant professor, University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio, were selected as recipients of the Breakthroughs in Gerontology (BIG) Award sponsored by the Glenn Foundation for Medical Research and AFAR. Established in 2005, the BIG Award provides \$200,000 for high-risk research that offers significant promise of yielding transforming discoveries in the fundamental biology of aging. Dr. Rando will investigate how stem cells are able to divide throughout the life of an individual to give rise to new cells in tissue, without acquiring mutations in their DNA and causing cancer. He will seek to identify ways the body is able to limit the development of cancer as individuals age. Dr. Ikeno's research seeks to understand the protective role of a major antioxidant in obese mammals and its effects on lifespan and reduction of age-related pathologies. The outcome of his research could provide important clues in preventing age-related pathological changes associated with obesity in humans.

The Neurosciences Education and Research Foundation in memory of renowned Alzheimer's disease researcher Leon Thal has provided \$100,000 to supplement six AFAR junior investigators studying the basic biology of aging processes underlying Alzheimer's disease.

Since 2005, AFAR has served as the Centers of Excellence Network Resource Center for The John A. **Hartford Foundation's 28 Centers** of Excellence (CoEs), which are recognized for their considerable capacity to recruit and develop physician leaders in geriatrics. The Network Resource Center facilitates the continued development of academic geriatric medicine and its practitioners by identifying and disseminating best practices in geriatrics recruitment and career development. AFAR has developed three manuals to aid in these efforts. The first two manuals focus on recruitment of premedical and medical students and residents to careers in geriatric medicine and advanced fellowship training and academic careers, respectively. The third manual focuses on firsthand views of strategies from CoE directors, academic deans and other institutional leaders to support the growth and development of their geriatrics programs. These manuals are available on the Network Resource Center website, www.geriatricsrecruitment.org.

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ELLISON MEDICAL FOUNDATION/ AFAR POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWS IN AGING RESEARCH PROGRAM

The Ellison Medical Foundation

MEDICAL STUDENT TRAINING IN AGING RESEARCH (MSTAR) PROGRAM

Community Health Foundation of Western and Central New York

Lillian R. Gleitsman Foundation

The John A. Hartford Foundation

National Institute on Aging

Complete information about AFAR grant programs, recipients, and sponsors can be found on the AFAR web site www.afar.org/grants.html

Given the demographic realities of the next 20 years, our healthcare system desperately needs more researchers and clinicians in geriatrics and from a broad array of other disciplines to address the many issues affecting older patients. Our organization is pleased to be collaborating with AFAR on the MSTAR and Beeson programs and other initiatives, resulting in powerful and cost-effective ways in which we achieve our mutual goals.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS: EVENTS AND EDUCATION





Peter D. Meldrum, of Myriad Genetics, Christoph Westphal, MD, PhD, of Sirtris Pharmaceuticals, and John W. Rowe, MD, of Columbia University were among the honorees at the AFAR annual awards dinner that took place on October 6, 2008, at New York City's Grand Hyatt. The event, which attracted some 180 people from the corporate, scientific, and foundation communities, as well as individual AFAR supporters, was held in conjunction with AFAR's scientific conference, Aging and Cancer: Two *Sides of the Same Coin.* Both events raised more than \$250,000 that will support the AFAR Research Grant program. Other honorees included Arlan Richardson, PhD, of the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio and Ana Maria Cuervo, MD, PhD, of the Albert Einstein College of Medicine. Dr. Cuervo is the first recipient of the Vincent Cristofalo Rising Star in Aging Research Award, which recognizes outstanding researchers in the first half of their careers who have made major discoveries in the fundamental biology of aging and whose work is deemed likely to be highly influential for decades to come. Nearly 100 scientists and industry leaders attended AFAR's scientific conference, Aging and Cancer: Two Sides of the Same Coin? held on October 6 and 7, 2008, in New York. The event explored fundamental aspects of aging and cancer processes and their interactions, both from the basic research and translational perspectives. Presenters included: Steven Austad, PhD, and Rochelle Buffenstein, PhD, both at the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio, Barshop Center for Longevity and Aging Studies: George Bosl, MD, Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center; Judith Campisi, PhD, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory; Lawrence A. Loeb, MD, PhD, University of Washington; Thomas Rando, MD, PhD, Stanford University; John W. Rowe, MD, Columbia University; and Norman Sharpless, MD, and Jack Griffith, PhD, both at the University of North Carolina School of Medicine.

The conference was sponsored by: Eli Lilly, The Ellison Medical Foundation, GE Healthcare, Glenn Foundation for Medical Research, Myriad Pharmaceuticals, National Institute on Aging, Pfizer Inc, the 2008 Dorothy Dillon Eweson Lecture Series, and an anonymous donor.

(l-r) AFAR Executive Director Stephanie Lederman; AFAR President Terrie Fox Wetle, PhD; Ana Maria Cuervo, MD, PhD; John W. Rowe, MD; AFAR Scientific Director George M. Martin, MD; AFAR Board Chair Diana Jacobs Kalman; Christoph Westphal, MD, PhD; Peter D. Meldrum; and AFAR Board Member Roger J. McCarter, PhD

AFAR Scientific Director George M. Martin, MD



CAMPAIGN FOR SUCCESSFUL AGING

In 2008, AFAR celebrated the official launch of its new Florida Affiliate. AFAR Florida was established to bring regional support for aging research through grants to Florida scientists and educational opportunities for the general public. This year marked the creation of a board of directors comprised of key leaders in research and the lay community and the first named grant, AvMed Health Plans AFAR Research Grant. As part of the ongoing project to cultivate an environment of exchange, AFAR Florida has hosted several events for Florida residents, including collaborating with the Miami Science Museum and Tampa's Museum of Discovery and Science for a scientific lecture series. For more information about AFAR Florida's grant opportunities and events, please visit the new website at www.afarFL.org.

Supported by a grant from the **MetLife Foundation**, the Campaign for Successful Aging is a public education initiative designed to address societal misconceptions about aging and promote healthier aging among baby boomers. Input from a survey of more than 700 baby boomers and a review of current research by thought leaders in aging and health policy has set the stage for the next phase of the campaign: developing and implementing a social marketing campaign around healthy aging.

Our partnership with AFAR is an important part of our overall strategy to help sustain as many developing investigators of aging as can survive the current funding shortage. The ultimate result is that we multiply the impact of individual programs and set a very high standard for philanthropic intervention in the scientific funding landscape.

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