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AFAR HONORS INNOVATORS IN AGING RESEARCH AT NOVEMBER 6 AWARDS

UK longevity investor Jim Mellon and investigators David Sinclair and Laura Niedernhofer honored.

New York, NY-- The American Federation for Aging Research (AFAR) hosted its Annual Awards Dinner and Scientific Symposium on **Tuesday, November 6, 2018** in New York City at Lotte New York Palace. The event kicked off with a scientific symposium from 2-5 p.m., followed by a dinner and awards ceremony from 6-9 p.m.

Emmy-Award winning producer **Meredith Vieira** served as master of ceremonies. Vieira also recently hosted the PBS documentary *Incredible Aging: Adding Life to Your Years*, which features 14 AFAR experts.

Every year at its awards dinner, AFAR recognizes leaders across the private and philanthropic sectors whose dedication to research is helping advance discoveries and therapeutics poised to help us all live healthier for longer.

This year, AFAR presented its George E. and Mary J. Doty Award to **Jim Mellon**, Chairman of Juvenescence Limited. A UK-based entrepreneur, Mellon co-founded Juvenescence Limited to develop therapies for aging and the diseases of aging.

"It is an honor to be recognized by AFAR, an organization that is a pioneer in aging research," Mellon said. "The field could not have advanced to where we are today without AFAR's vision and willingness—for more than 3 decades, often lonely decades—to take chances on funding the scientists who are conducting innovative studies that serve as the basis for so many of the therapies that are being developed today."

Additionally, AFAR recognized its annual Scientific Awards of Distinction. **Laura Niedernhofer, M.D., Ph.D.** of the University of Minnesota was recognized with the Vincent Cristofalo Rising Star Award in Aging Research.

David Sinclair, Ph.D. of Harvard Medical School received AFAR's Irving S. Wright Award and gave a lecture on promising interventions poised to enhance healthy aging.

Preceding the dinner, AFAR hosted a scientific symposium discussing new therapies in aging research and highlighting opportunities for investment. Panelists included: AFAR Deputy Scientific Director and multiple grantee Nir Barzilai, M.D., of Einstein College of Medicine, Veronica Galvan, Ph.D., of the Barshop Institute for Longevity and Aging Studies at the University of Texas Health San Antonio, AFAR board member and multiple grantee Thomas Rando, M.D., Ph.D., of the Stanford University, and AFAR board member and grantee David Sinclair, Ph.D., of Harvard Medical School. AFAR Board Member Pol Vandenbroucke, M.D. facilitated. Dr. Vandenbroucke is Senior Vice President and Chief Development Officer, Pfizer Essential Health.

Founded in 1981, AFAR is a national non-profit organization whose mission is to support and advance healthy aging through biomedical research. AFAR has built the field of aging research providing more than \$178 million to more than 4,100 talented investigators and students through its grants program. AFAR funds scientists and physician-researchers who are probing the fundamental mechanisms of aging, as well as age-related diseases, in order to help us all live healthier, longer.

"The future of healthy aging is driven by innovation," noted **Stephanie Lederman, Ed.M.**, Executive Director, AFAR. "AFAR applauds visionaries like Jim Mellon who champion the promise of research to extend healthspan, our years of health as we grow older."



Meredith Vieira, host of the recent PBS special Incredible Aging featuring 14 AFAR experts, emceed AFAR's Awards Dinner on Tuesday November 6 at Lotte New York Palace and presented the George E. and Marie J. Doty Award to UK innovations and aging research investor Jim Mellon, Chairman of Juvenescence Limited. (Photo: Nir Arieli Photography)



At our Annual Awards Dinner on November 6 at Lotte New York Palace, AFAR presented the Vincent Cristofalo Rising Star Award in Aging Research to Laura Niedernhofer, M.D., Ph.D., of the University of Minnesota and the Irving S. Wright Award of Distinction to David Sinclair, Ph.D., of Harvard Medical School. Both awards recognize outstanding achievements to the field of biomedical research on aging and are nominated by peers. (Photo: Nir Arieli Photography)



AFAR has given more than \$178 million to more than 4,1000 investigators advancing healthy aging through biomedical research since 1981, noted Executive Director Stephanie Lederman, Ed.M. at AFAR's Annual Awards Dinner on Tuesday, November 6 at Lotte New York Palace. (Photo: Nir Arieli Photography).



At AFAR's Annual Awards Dinner on Tuesday, November 6 at Lotte New York Palace, Board President and multiple grantee Mark S. Lachs, M.D., M.P.H., of Weill Cornell Medicine reflected on the range of interventions poised to move from the labs into our lives that AFAR has helped advance since its founding in 1981 by Irving S. Wright, M.D. (Photo: Nir Arieli Photography).



Preceding the Annual Awards Dinner, AFAR hosted a scientific symposium discussing new therapies in aging research and opportunities for investment on Tuesday, November 6 at Lotte New York Palace. The panel was moderated by Pol Vandenbroucke, M.D., AFAR board member and Senior Vice President and Chief Development Officer, Pfizer Essential Health (far left) and featured AFAR board member and multiple grantee Tom Rando, M.D., Ph.D., of Stanford University, AFAR board member and multiple grantee David Sinclair, Ph.D., of Harvard Medical School, AFAR Deputy Scientific Director and multiple grantee Nir Barzilai, M.D., of Albert Einstein College of Medicine, and Veronica Galvan, Ph.D., of the University of Texas Health San Antonio (left to right). (Photo: Nir Arieli Photography).

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About AFAR - The American Federation for Aging Research (AFAR) is a national non-profit organization whose mission is to support and advance healthy aging through biomedical research. Founded in 1981, AFAR has championed the cause and supported the funding of science in healthier aging and age-related medicine. To address the shortage of physicians and researchers dedicated to the science of healthier aging, AFAR funds physicians and scientists probing the fundamental mechanisms of aging, as well as specific diseases associated with aging populations at critical points throughout their careers. AFAR engages the public through webinars, conferences and our online resource, InfoAging, featuring over two dozen downloadable

guides, edited by guest experts on topics ranging from theories of aging, age-related conditions, healthy lifestyle tips, and more. Learn at www.afar.org or follow AFARorg on Twitter and Facebook.

