



New Jersey Commission on Cancer Research

Dedicated to Conquering Cancer Through Scientific Research

2004 Annual Report



The New Jersey Commission on Cancer Research (NJCCR) promotes significant and original research in New Jersey into the causes, prevention and treatment of cancer and serves as a resource to providers and consumers of cancer services.

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On the cover:

Kat Block's "Never Promised Rose Garden"

"Never Promised Rose Garden" was featured in the 2004 Breast Cancer Calendar, made possible by the New Jersey Breast Cancer Advisory Group to the New Jersey Commission on Cancer Research. All artwork featured in the calendar had been donated by artists whose lives have been touched by breast cancer.



A Message from the Chair

Dear Governor Codey:

On behalf of the State of New Jersey Commission on Cancer Research (NJCCR) we are pleased and proud to present our 2004 Annual Report.

Two thousand and four was a year of transition. Dr. Frederick B. Cohen, has made the difficult decision to step down as a Commissioner after 20 years of extraordinary leadership and effort. In recognition for his contributions over the years, Frederick B. Cohen, M.D., has been honored with the title of Emeritus Member to the NJCCR. Additionally, Drs. George E. Dunaif ('89-'04) and Lynn W. Enquist ('95-'04) are leaving their posts after many years of outstanding contributions; the NJCCR is grateful for their generous dedication to our mission. Several excellent new members have been appointed to take their places in 2005.

The NJCCR has become an important and recognized vehicle for coordinating and encouraging cancer research in New Jersey. We continue to play a leadership role in organizing or co-organizing informative and well-received meetings and educational programs for scientists, physicians, cancer patients, and survivors in the State of New Jersey. The number and quality of grant applications that are being submitted to our seed research grant program continues to increase annually. We are pleased to report that several of our previous grant recipients were subsequently awarded highly competitive, peer-reviewed Federal grants, based on the seed projects that we funded. For every dollar that the NJCCR has awarded, over \$5.66, on average, has been returned to the State for continued research, thereby strengthening the scientific infrastructure and New Jersey's economy. The State can take pride in the efforts of its research scientists and institutions.

Along with maintaining our record of outstanding achievements, the NJCCR faces new challenges and opportunities. The upcoming year will be a time of renewed vigor and opportunity as we welcome our new members. We have already begun to redefine and refocus our short- and long-term goals while fully embracing the core values that have made the NJCCR a model for other States that have launched similar research funding organizations around the country.

Because cancer remains the number one health issue for New Jersey citizens, and it touches us all in some way, in the coming year the NJCCR looks forward to making significant progress in achieving its goals, and to engaging the energies and talents of our new members.

Finally, on behalf of the members of NJCCR, and the citizens of New Jersey who benefit from our work, I would like to express sincere thanks for your help and support.

Respectfully yours,



Anna Marie Skalka, Ph.D.
Chairperson



Executive Summary

Who We Are:

The New Jersey Commission on Cancer Research (NJCCR) strives to ensure that the citizens of New Jersey receive the fullest benefit of our nation's fight against cancer through the promotion and funding of research into the causes, prevention, and treatment of cancer. Over the past 20 years, the NJCCR has awarded more than \$26.5 million dollars for over 590 research projects on cancer.

Why We're Here:

Each year, over 40,000 New Jersey residents learn that they have cancer and approximately 18,000 die of this disease. New Jersey consistently ranks in the top ten among all states for cancer mortality and has higher incidence rates for colorectal, lung, and non-Hodgkin's lymphoma.

In addition, a cancer dilemma awaits us in the near future simply due to our growing and aging population. Given the current trends, the number of new cancer cases is predicted to rise significantly in the next decade.

In spite of the challenges ahead, there are real reasons to feel optimistic because serious inroads are being made against cancer. Significant recent advances in understanding the cellular and molecular events that lead to cancer have led to rapid development and application in the diagnosis and treatment of cancer. This knowledge will, in turn, lead to ever expanding opportunities for prevention and cure. As a result, incidence and mortality rates for New Jersey are declining, and approximately 370,000 cancer survivors are living in our state.

What We Do:

- Enhance the capacity of the State to use grant funding strategically to strengthen cancer research in New Jersey.
- Support, organize and promote meetings, workshops, conferences, and seminars to disseminate information on state cancer research activities, promote collaboration among scientists and highlight New Jersey's research capacities.
- Increase funding for cancer research in New Jersey.
- Open dialogues with biotechnology/pharmaceutical industry to improve translational research.
- Raise awareness about the value of quality of life, and pain and palliation components in patient care.
- Provide educational programs and materials to patients, family members, and the public.
- Reduce barriers to participation in clinical trials for minorities and the medically under-served.
- Address emerging issues of significance to New Jersey including cancer and aging, improving quality of life for patients and expanding opportunities for participation in clinical trials.

Our Relationship to the State Department of Health and Senior Services:

The NJCCR is established in, but not of, the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS). Within DHSS, the office of the NJCCR is administratively assigned in the Center for Cancer Initiatives.

It is evident that the progress and achievements detailed in this report were realized through the vision, dedication and hard work of many individuals, particularly past Commissioner Clifton R. Lacy, M.D., current Commissioner Fred M. Jacobs, M.D., JD, and many others at the DHSS. Under the leadership of Deputy Commissioner/State Epidemiologist Dr. Eddy A. Bresnitz, the NJCCR collaborates with Cancer Epidemiology Services, the Office of Cancer Prevention & Control, and the New Jersey Cancer Education and Early Detection Program to offer integrated services to the citizens of New Jersey.

The NJCCR benefits from the strong support services available in the DHSS, including fiscal, human resources, and information technology. The NJCCR works effectively with the DHSS to implement its mission of service to the public.



Research Highlights

During its history, the NJCCR has successfully pursued a course of action that has brought it national recognition. Its highly competitive grant program, which relies upon systematic scientific peer review, assures that state monies for cancer research are awarded to those programs and scientists that offer the greatest potential for success. While providing immediate assistance to highly promising scientists, these seed grants also represent a sound long-term investment in the health of all New Jersey citizens.

Through awards, researchers are able to establish themselves in the rigorous world of national scientific competition as well as position themselves for national grants for their projects. With additional funding coming from outside sources, scientists working in New Jersey are building a research infrastructure to deal satisfactorily with the critical problems posed by cancer for the citizens of New Jersey.

The funds that the NJCCR directs to research on the causes, prevention, detection, and cure of cancer are not just monies spent, but are investments in the future of New Jersey citizens. By encouraging and identifying innovative research on cancer, and attracting and training some of the most talented and gifted scientists into this area of research, New Jersey is making a research investment that can pay vital dividends for all in years to come. These funds provide critical leverage in developing new scientific infrastructures and networks crucial for a broad-based and comprehensive approach to the fight against cancer. The NJCCR's challenge is to allocate funds rapidly and flexibly to assure that the new and promising ideas are brought quickly to bear on the understanding and prevention, detection, and cure of cancer.

Overall, applications for funding to the NJCCR have substantially increased in number. As a consequence, while the NJCCR has been able to fund a good percentage of meritorious research proposals, some deserving applications have gone unfunded. Nevertheless, this highly competitive grant program was able to award 13 grants for over \$931,050.

TWO YEAR AWARDS

JOHN W. GLOD, M.D., PH.D., UMDNJ-THE CANCER INSTITUTE OF NEW JERSEY
The Role of Endothelial-like Monocytic Cells in Angiogenesis in CNS Tumors
\$97,900

SAMUEL I. GUNDERSON, PH.D., RUTGERS, THE STATE UNIVERSITY
Human Papillomavirus 16: Regulation of Polyadenylation
\$99,000

SHENGMAN JIN, PH.D., UMDNJ-ROBERT WOOD JOHNSON MEDICAL SCHOOL
Study of Tumor Suppression Mechanisms of Autophagy
\$96,800

KATSUNORI SUGIMOTO, M.D., PH.D., UMDNJ-NEW JERSEY MEDICAL SCHOOL
Mechanism for Recruiting Checkpoint-Mediator Proteins to DNA Lesions
\$97,350

GUTIAN XIAO, PH.D., RUTGERS, THE STATE UNIVERSITY
Role of the Pronto-oncoprotein Cot in HTLV Tax-induced Tumors
\$99,000

★ ONE YEAR AWARDS

REBECCA D. BURDINE, PH.D., PRINCETON UNIVERSITY
Analysis of the Zebrafish Cystic Kidney Mutant Switch Hitter
\$49,500

ANDREW BUSH, PH.D., RUTGERS, THE STATE UNIVERSITY
The Role of Inflammation in a Mouse Model of Prostate Cancer
\$49,500

RICK I. COHEN, PH.D., CORIELL INSTITUTE FOR MEDICAL RESEARCH
Purifying of Normal Stem Cells from Leukemic Patients
\$49,500

HAIYAN QI, PH.D., UMDNJ-ROBERT WOOD JOHNSON MEDICAL SCHOOL
The Mechanism of Tumor Cell Killing by Telomeric G-quadruplexes
\$49,500

★ VIRGINIA KOEHLER LYMPHOMA AWARD

The NJCCR received a significant amount of contributions in memory of Ms. Virginia Koehler. As a result, the NJCCR was able to match these funds and offer one award that examined the causes, prevention or treatment of lymphoma.

JACK D. BURTON, M.D., CMMI/GARDEN STATE CANCER CENTER
Doxorubicin-Immunoconjugate Therapy of Lymphoma
\$99,000

★ BREAST CANCER RESEARCH FUND AWARDS

RAYMOND B. BIRGE, PH.D., UMDNJ-NEW JERSEY MEDICAL SCHOOL
A Novel Strategy to Target Dendritic Cells
\$49,500

LELAND J. GERSHELL, PH.D., UMDNJ-ROBERT WOOD JOHNSON MEDICAL SCHOOL
Hmga2 in Mammary Tumorigenesis and Metastasis
\$69,000

MOHAMED M. RAFI, PH.D., RUTGERS, THE STATE UNIVERSITY
In Vivo Efficacy and Proteomics Study Using a New Anticancer Compound
\$45,000

COURTNEY WILLIAMS, PRE-DOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP, PRINCETON UNIVERSITY
Role of Stromal Fibronectin in Breast Cell Oncogenesis
\$38,000

FELLOWSHIPS

Since 1988, the NJCCR has helped to attract and retain promising scholars pursuing careers in cancer research through its most successful fellowship program. Attracting a core of outstanding scientists to our research institutions not only brings in additional research dollars from other sources; it attracts promising investigators. Jobs are created, our technological base is enhanced, and the quality of science education is improved. As promising students come to New Jersey for their training, a continual source of scientists is also available for the pharmaceutical/biotechnology industries.

Over the years, the fellowship program has proven to be a sound and promising investment that has helped establish the foundation for the kind of scientific investigation that will keep New Jersey at the forefront in the war against cancer.

This year, the NJCCR was able to award 24 fellowships to students of outstanding merit, at over \$509,000.

★ POST DOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS

ROBIN MATHEW, PH.D., UMDNJ-ROBERT WOOD JOHNSON MEDICAL SCHOOL
Mitotic Checkpoint Function and Cancer Chemosensitivity
1 year, \$35,000

EAIN A. MURPHY, PH.D., PRINCETON UNIVERSITY
Mutational Analysis of Recently Identified HCMV ORF's
\$69,000

MASSIMO PINTO, PH.D., UMDNJ-NEW JERSEY MEDICAL SCHOOL
Radiation-induced Bystander Effects in a 3D Model
\$69,000

★ PRE-DOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS (\$38,000 each)

KAR BISHNUPIRYA, UMDNJ-NEW JERSEY MEDICAL SCHOOL
A Novel Nuclear Role for the Crk Oncogene

KATHLEEN DAUMER, PRINCETON UNIVERSITY
The Role of Est3p at the Telomere

KYLA DRISCOLL, UMDNJ-NEW JERSEY MEDICAL SCHOOL
Role of Dimerization of Rta in KsHIV Lytic Reactivation

DARYL GOHL, PRINCETON UNIVERSITY
Mechanisms of Bithorax Complex Boundary Function

MARTHA KLOVSTAD, PRINCETON UNIVERSITY
Meiotic DSB and Checkpoint Activation

★ SUMMER FELLOWSHIPS (\$2,800 each)

BRYAN BENN, UMDNJ-NEW JERSEY MEDICAL SCHOOL

AARON CARLSON, RUTGERS, THE STATE UNIVERSITY

GRACE COLLETTI, RIDER UNIVERSITY

FRANCESCO DEPIERRO, GARDEN STATE CANCER CENTER

EVE HENRY, PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

SARA KHALIL, RUTGERS, THE STATE UNIVERSITY

CARL KUNDA, UMDNJ-ROBERT WOOD JOHNSON MEDICAL SCHOOL

ROBERT MIGNONE, RIDER UNIVERSITY

TOLU ONIGBANJO, PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

JASON RAINES, RUTGERS, THE STATE UNIVERSITY

KATHLEEN REDPATH-PEREZ, UMDNJ-ROBERT WOOD JOHNSON MEDICAL SCHOOL

JANET WANGARI, GARDEN STATE CANCER CENTER

HASHANTHI WIJAYTILAKE, PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

SUN XIAONAN, RUTGERS, THE STATE UNIVERSITY

New Jersey Commission on Cancer Research

2004 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

FUNDING

Cancer Research Fund	\$1,000,000
FY03/04 Second Year Award Funding/Carryover	773,676
Conquer Cancer License Plate	495,500
Breast Cancer Research Fund	241,228
Prostate Cancer Research Fund	21,495
Gifts, bequests, donations, grants	85,896

TOTAL REVENUES

\$2,617,795

EXPENSES

FY04 First Year Award Funding	
Grants, Fellowship, Meetings/Programs	\$960,525
FY03/04 Second Year Award Funding	773,676
FY04/05 Second Year Award Funding/Carryover	588,594
Research management & support	295,000

TOTAL EXPENDITURES

\$2,617,795

Monies raised through the Breast Cancer Research Fund, Prostate Cancer Research Fund, and the Conquer Cancer License Plate or from contributions, do not finance the Commission's operating expenses. 100% of these contributions go directly to an approved cancer research project in New Jersey and are tax deductible.

Furthermore, what this information does not show, is the value of the tremendous amount of volunteer time that goes into these activities – the human element that makes the work of the New Jersey Commission on Cancer Research (NJCCR) possible. On behalf of the NJCCR, we would like to thank everyone who has contributed time or money towards the fight against cancer.



2004 Commission Members and Staff

The overall objectives, strategies and priorities of the NJCCR are set by the Commissioners, who actively participate in overseeing the program and make final recommendations on the research projects to be funded. In each Grant Cycle, the NJCCR awards grants based on the members' recommendations, following peer reviewers' evaluations, assessment of responsiveness to program priorities, and available funds.

The NJCCR consists of eleven members appointed by the Governor with the consent of the Senate: six scientists/clinicians; one member from a non-profit health organization, two members from private industry; one ex-officio member from the Department of Health and Senior Services, one ex-officio member from the Department of Environmental Protection and three unfilled vacancies.

Anna Marie Skalka, Ph.D. – Commission Chair

Dr. Skalka has been the Senior Vice President for Basic Science and Director of the Institute for Cancer Research at the Fox Chase Cancer Center in Philadelphia since 1987. Previously, she chaired the Department of Molecular Oncology at the Roche Institute for Molecular Biology in Nutley. Dr. Skalka has served on a number of national and international scientific advisory committees, and on the editorial boards of several scientific journals. She was a recipient of an Outstanding Investigator Grant from the National Cancer Institute and an unrestricted grant for research in infectious diseases from the Bristol Myers Squibb Co. In 1994, in recognition for her outstanding achievements, Dr. Skalka was elected a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and in 1996 she was elected to the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the American Academy of Microbiology (AAM), serving on the Board of Governors from 1999-2002. Dr. Skalka is an internationally recognized expert on molecular genetics and the molecular biology of RNA tumor viruses. Together with Dr. Enquist, she is coauthor of the leading virology textbook. Dr. Skalka resides in Princeton, New Jersey.

Thomas Atherholt, Ph.D.

Dr. Atherholt is a member of the Division of Science, Research and Technology of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) where he is a research microbiologist. Dr. Atherholt received his doctorate in microbiology from Rutgers University. He performed environmental research at the Coriell Institute for Medical Research in Camden, NJ, for 10 years prior to joining the DEP in 1990. Dr. Atherholt serves as an ex-officio member representing the Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Protection. He was awarded a Professional Achievement Award by the State of New Jersey for award-winning drinking water research, in May 2001. He resides in Moorestown, New Jersey.

Eddy A. Bresnitz, M.D., M.S.

Dr. Bresnitz is the New Jersey State Epidemiologist/Deputy Commissioner in the Department of Health and Senior Services. He oversees the Center for Cancer Initiatives, which coordinates all cancer activities in the Department. He also chairs the state's Cancer Cluster Task Force. He is also Professor of Medicine in the Department of Environmental and Occupational Medicine in the Robert Wood Johnson Medical School and the School of Public Health of the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey.

Dr. Bresnitz received his undergraduate and medical degrees from McGill University and a Master's of Clinical Epidemiology from the University of Pennsylvania. He completed postgraduate training at Montifiore Hospital in New York City and at the University of Pennsylvania and is board certified in internal, pulmonary, and preventive medicine. Dr. Bresnitz has been principal investigator or co-principal investigator on a variety of NIH, foundation, and state grants, and has published extensively, principally in the area of epidemiology and disease surveillance. Dr. Bresnitz serves as an ex-officio member representing the Commissioner of Health and Senior Services. Dr. Bresnitz resides in Lawrenceville, NJ.

Barbara Rabinowitz, Ph.D.

Dr. Rabinowitz is the first Commission member with expertise in the psychological and psychosocial aspects of cancer. She completed her doctorate in Social Work at Rutgers University and is also a registered nurse. Dr. Rabinowitz has published chapters in textbooks for physicians on the psychosocial aspects of cancer care as well as numerous articles on this and related topics. She has completed two important cancer research projects and is a frequent invited presenter for professional organizations nationwide. Dr. Rabinowitz is the Director of Oncology Services for Meridian Health. In addition, she maintains a private practice in psychotherapy and sex therapy and resides in Lakewood, New Jersey.

Jeffrey A. Warren, M.P.A.

Jeffrey Warren is a Senior Advisor to the National Pharmaceutical Council and a Principal with JR Market Strategies, Inc., a healthcare-consulting firm. Previously, Mr. Warren was responsible for Strategic Marketing and Media Relations for Pfizer Health Solutions. Earlier in his career, he served as Executive Vice President, Corporate Development for Cathedral Healthcare System. During his tenure with Cathedral, Mr. Warren was a National Program Director for the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's New Jersey Health Services Development Program. Warren's past experience includes a tenure as Vice President, Corporate Development with Hackensack Medical Center and serving as the first Executive Secretary of the New Jersey Hospital Rate Setting Commission. He is President of the Board of Gilda's Club, Northern, NJ and a member of the board of Health Decisions. Mr. Warren serves on the Editorial Task Force Committee of AMGA's "Group Practice Journal". Jeff has a Masters Degree (MPA) in Health Policy, Planning and Administration from the Wagner School of Public Service at NYU. He resides in Parsippany, NJ.

The NJCCR wishes to express a special thanks to the following commissioners who have completed their terms:

Frederick B. Cohen, M.D.

Dr. Cohen has intermittently served as Chairman of the New Jersey Commission on Cancer Research for over fifteen years. In addition, he was the Director of Medical Oncology from 1970 to 1999 and is past president of the medical staff of Newark Beth Israel Medical Center. He is recipient of the Edward J. III Award, one of the highest honors bestowed on a physician in New Jersey, and the New Jersey Pride Award in Health. He is past president of the Academy of Medicine of New Jersey and served as past president for the American Cancer Society, New Jersey Division, Inc. Dr. Cohen now serves as a principal investigator for the STAR project in addition to several clinical studies by national cooperative groups. He resides in South Orange, New Jersey.

George E. Dunaif, Ph.D.

Dr. Dunaif is the Senior Director – Toxicology, Analytical Services and Quality Systems at the Campbell Soup Company, Camden, NJ. Dr. Dunaif directs the corporate and international toxicology, analytical laboratory, and quality systems programs and staff. In addition, he is the co-coordinator of the Campbell Integrated Pest Management Program. Dr. Dunaif received his Ph.D. in environmental toxicology from Cornell University. He is a diplomat of the American Board of Toxicology and has served on a number of national and international committees on nutrition and toxicology. He resides in Mount Laurel, New Jersey.

Lynn W. Enquist, Ph.D.

Dr. Enquist is a Professor of Molecular Biology and Chair of the Department of Molecular Biology at Princeton University. Previously, he was a Research Leader in Molecular Biology at Dupont and a Senior Research Fellow at Dupont-Merck Pharmaceutical Company. He was responsible for the Dupont-Merck Postdoctoral Fellowship Program and served as scientific advisor for senior management. In addition to teaching virology at Princeton, Dr. Enquist has published over one hundred seventy scientific papers and books. Together with Dr. Skalka, he is coauthor of the leading virology textbook. He has served on major scientific committees including the National Institutes of Health Experimental Virology Study Section and the Microbial Physiology and Genetics Study Section. Dr. Enquist is the Editor in Chief of the Journal of Virology, a fellow of the American Academy of Microbiology, and a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. He has lectured at numerous seminars and universities around the world. Dr. Enquist received his doctoral degree in Microbiology from the Medical College of Virginia. He resides in Princeton, New Jersey.

A warm welcome is extended to the following 2005 commissioners:

Kenneth R. Adler, M.D., FACP – Vice Chairman

Dr. Kenneth Adler is currently an attending physician in Hematology-Oncology at Morristown Memorial Hospital and an assistant clinical professor at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey. He attended the University of Pittsburgh and graduated from Albany Medical College in New York. In addition, his internal medicine residency and Hematology-Oncology fellowship was completed at Albany Medical Center. In 2002, Dr. Adler was awarded the American Cancer Society of St. George National Award for his volunteer work on the local, state, and national level. He has served as a volunteer of the American Cancer Society since 1981 and has served on the National Oversight committee for the I Can Cope national program and chaired the state committee for patient and family services. He is active on the board of Cancer Hope Network and Gilda's Club and serves on the medical advisory board of the Susan G. Komen Foundation. Dr. Adler was recently appointed to the National Clinical Practice Committee of the American Society of Hematology. Furthermore, Dr. Adler has been recognized as one of the leading oncologists/hematologists in the Metropolitan New York/New Jersey area, in the Castle-Connolly Top Doctors in the Northeast Region and has also been named in New Jersey Monthly for the past eight years. He was named Physician of the Year by the American Cancer Society, and was honored by the New Jersey State Assembly for this award. He also received the Physician Home Care Award for Somerset County and was honored at the 2003 Pink Tie Ball by the Susan G. Komen Foundation of Northern New Jersey for his care of women with breast cancer. Dr. Adler was honored to receive the Community Service Award from the VNA of Northern New Jersey in 2004. He recently wrote and helped edit the introduction to the book *I'm Sorry You Have to Be Here*, by his patient Lois Cappetta-Bhatt, a mother's story on cancer, family, and support.

Jeanne C. Beck, Ph.D.

Dr. Beck is Professor at the Coriell Institute for Medical Research (CIMR) and the Director of the Coriell Cell Repositories (CCR). In this role, Dr. Beck is responsible for the solicitation of biological specimens for the Repositories and publicizing Repository activities, as well as oversight of the Bioinformatics and Molecular Biology Groups. In addition, she is actively involved with the Cooperative Family Registry for Breast Cancer Studies (CFRBCS). Another research endeavor that Dr. Beck spearheads is the development of a primate cell collection currently residing in the Institute's cell banks. Dr. Beck received a Ph.D. in biochemistry at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine and completed two postdoctoral fellowships, one at Johns Hopkins and one at Harvard University. Prior to her current role at the Coriell Institute, Dr. Beck held faculty positions at both the Department of Medicine at the Mount Sinai School of Medicine in New York and the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. In addition, Dr. Beck spent some years as Research Director for the National Disease Research Interchange. She came to the Coriell Institute in 1995 as Assistant Director of the Coriell Cell Repositories. After a brief position as Acting Director of the cell banks, Dr. Beck became Deputy Director of the Coriell Cell Repositories in 1998.

James Broach, Ph.D.

Dr. Broach is currently serving as Associate Director of the Lewis-Sigler Institute for Integrative Genomics and Professor at Princeton University, Department of Molecular Biology. He completed his undergraduate studies at Yale University and was awarded a Bachelor of Science degree in Chemistry in 1969. In 1973, he was awarded a Ph.D. in Biochemistry from the University of California, Berkeley, where he also completed his Predoctoral fellowship in Biochemistry, and Postdoctoral Fellowship in Medical Physics. In addition, he completed a Postdoctoral Fellowship at Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, upon which he was employed in the capacity of a Staff Scientist. Subsequently, he joined the State University of New York at Stony Brook as an Assistant/Associate Professor, a position he held just prior to serving in his current position at Princeton University. In the past, Dr. Broach has served as a Postdoctoral Fellow with the American Cancer Society, an Investigator for the American Heart Association, a Fellow with the American Academy of Microbiology, and a Member of the National Institutes of Health's Genetics Section. He also served as an Associate Editor for the Journal Molecular and Cellular Biology and Associate Editor for the Journal Cell. He also served as Co-Chairman of the 1991 Gordon Conference on Extrachromosomal Elements and Chairman of the 1993 Gordon Conference on Plasmid and Chromosome Dynamics. Dr. Broach was on the Scientific Review Board of the Frederick Cancer Center, Co-Founder/Director of Research for Cadus Pharmaceuticals, Co-Director/Review Board Member for the Life Sciences Research Foundation, he is a retired Editor of Molecular and Cellular Biology, and has published numerous articles in the field.

Barton A. Kamen, M.D., Ph.D.

Dr. Kamen received his M.D. and Ph.D. from Case Western Reserve University. He then did a residency and fellowship in Pediatrics and Pediatric Hematology/Oncology and Pharmacology at Yale University. After spending 15 years at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center as a Professor of Pediatrics and Pharmacology and as the Carl B. and Florence E. King Distinguished Professor of Pediatrics, he moved to the Cancer Institute of New Jersey at the Robert Wood Johnson Medical School in 1999. He is a Professor of Pediatrics and Pharmacology, director of Pediatric Oncology and an Associate Director of the Center. During his career he has been a recipient of a Leukemia Society Scholar Award, a Damon Runyon Walter Winchell Fellow and a Burroughs Wellcome Clinical Pharmacology Award and is one of only ten American Cancer Society Clinical Research Professors. He has authored approximately 250 papers and is the current Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Pediatric Hematology Oncology. Dr. Kamen resides in Princeton Junction, NJ.

Marie T. Leithauser, M.S., M.B.A.

Marie Leithauser is the Director of Planning for Drug Discovery at Bristol-Myers Squibb's Pharmaceutical Research Institute. Previously, Ms. Leithauser was Adjunct Professor and Scientific Administrator for the Laboratory for Cancer Research at Rutgers, The State University. In addition, her past experience includes positions as a Research Assistant at Vanderbilt University, and as a Laboratory Manager/Research Assistant in the Department of Biochemistry at the Medical College of Wisconsin. Ms. Leithauser earned her Masters of Science degree in Experimental Oncology from McArdle Laboratory for Cancer Research at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and her Masters of Business Administration from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. She resides in Lambertville, NJ.

Harvey L. Ozer, M.D.

Dr. Ozer is Associate Dean for Oncology Programs at New Jersey Medical School (NJMS) of the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey (UMDNJ), and Director of the NJMS-University Hospital Cancer Center of UMDNJ in Newark. He previously served at NJMS as Chairman of the Department of Microbiology and Molecular Genetics, where he remains Professor, and as Senior Associate Dean for Research. His research on molecular mechanisms of carcinogenesis and of aging has been continuously funded by the National Institutes of Health for over 30 years. An internationally recognized expert on molecular genetics and cell biology of DNA tumor viruses and their cell interactions, Dr. Ozer has served on multiple National Institutes of Health and foundation training and research review panels as well as on editorial boards of scientific journals and on advisory committees to academic programs. He received his M.D. and initial research training at Stanford Medical School. Dr. Ozer resides in Hoboken, New Jersey.

COMMISSION STAFF:

ANN MARIE HILL - Executive Director

MICHAEL C. TOLENO - Assistant Director

SHANE LETEZIA - Grant Coordinator

KAREN SCHAEFER - Secretarial Assistant

COMMISSION OFFICES:

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2004 Advisory Groups

The NJCCR has been fortunate in being able to work with a large number of health professionals, researchers, policy makers, and advocates from throughout New Jersey as part of its Advisory Group structure. The NJCCR wishes to thank all advisory group members for their support and to record its deepest appreciation for the contributions and services of members of the various Sub-Committees and Working Groups throughout the year.

★ Basic Research Advisory Group

Chair:

JONATHAN YAVELow, Ph.D.

Rider University
Lawrenceville, NJ

SUZIE CHEN, Ph.D.

Rutgers, The State University
Piscataway, NJ

DAVID GOLD, Ph.D.

Garden State Cancer Center
Belleville, NJ

MARIE HOOVER, Ph.D.

Advanced Biomedical Laboratories
Cinnaminson, NJ

ALICE Y. LIU, Ph.D.

Rutgers, The State University
Piscataway, NJ

EDITH POSTEL, Ph.D.

Princeton University
Princeton, NJ

ELIZABETH RAVECHE, Ph.D.

UMDNJ-NJMS
Newark, NJ

IAN WHITEHEAD, Ph.D.

UMDNJ-NJMS
Newark, NJ

NANCY WOYCHICK, Ph.D.

UMDNJ-RWJMS
Piscataway, NJ

★ Breast Cancer Research Advisory Group

Chair:

SUSAN RITTLING, Ph.D.

Rutgers, The State University
Piscataway, NJ

Cynthia G. Ayres, Ph.D.

American Cancer Society, Eastern Division
North Brunswick, NJ

LINDA BASILIO

Patient Advocate
Wallburg, NJ

JEANNE BECK, Ph.D.

Coriell Institute for Medical Research
Camden, NJ

KAT BLOCK

Patient Advocate
Springfield, NJ

MARGARETTE BRYAN, M.D.

UMDNJ-NJMS
Newark, NJ

WENDY BUDIN, Ph.D., RN

Seton Hall University
South Orange, NJ

DEBORAH M. CAPKO, M.D.

Bergen Medical Center
Paramus, NJ

GENEROSA GRANA, M.D.
The Cooper Health System
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*(Improving Minority & Medically Underserved
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Special Thanks to the Supporters of the NJCCR

The New Jersey Commission on Cancer Research would like to thank the generous contributors who have made donations as well as gifts of time and expertise. The following content highlights the support that has helped us accomplish our objectives over the past year.



2004 Breast Cancer Calendar

New Jersey Artists joined forces once again with breast cancer experts to publish a unique 2004 Breast Cancer Calendar.

The calendar proved to be a successful tool in the fight against cancer, raising over \$30,000 for Breast Cancer Research. Kitchen Expo donated over \$5,000, making them the largest charitable funder of the calendar. One Hundred Percent of the proceeds raised from the calendar will support innovative breast cancer research at non-profit institutions throughout New Jersey through the New Jersey Breast Cancer Research Fund.

Striving to be a one of a kind educational tool, the calendar provided helpful information about breast cancer, including reminder stickers for breast self-exams and an annual mammogram. It contained healthy eating tips, inspirational quotes and valuable resource information.

The calendar was jointly sponsored by the Breast Cancer Research Advisory Group to the NJCCR and Rutgers, The State University. Bristol-Myers Squibb provided a major educational grant to support its development.

Fourteen top professional artists whose lives have been touched by breast cancer donated their artwork for the calendar. They include Hella Bailin, Kat Block, Carol Dakake, Linda A. Ippolito, Neal Korn, Debra F. Livingston, Clara Manheim, Bonnie Maranz, Paul McCormack, Irma Ostroff, Kit Sailor, S. Allyn Schaeffer, Philip Scherrod, and David Sutherland.



Mr. Brian Gordon, president of Kitchen Expo, along with Ann Marie Hill. Kitchen Expo was the largest charitable funder of the calendar.

White Beeches Golf and Country Club

LARGEST CHARITABLE FUNDER OF CANCER RESEARCH FOR THE NJCCR

With each passing year, and each White Beeches charity affair, hope increases for people with cancer in New Jersey. The White Beeches Golf and Country Club, once again, had a banner year, raising over \$56,000 for cancer research.

On July 14, 2004, the Ladies at White Beeches Golf and Country Club in Haworth, NJ, sponsored a "Christmas in July" charity affair that raised over \$16,000 for cancer research. The daylong event brought together over 250 women, who competed in bridge and golf tournaments. A wonderful luncheon and award ceremony followed, which also featured a Chinese auction.

Soon after, on October 25, 2004, Oberg & Linquist, a top appliance center in Westwood, NJ, along with KitchenAid, a leading manufacture of kitchen appliances, sponsored a charity golf affair at White Beeches that raised \$30,000 for breast cancer.

One hundred percent of the proceeds from both events will support cancer research at non-profit institutions in New Jersey.

Since more funding for cancer research is needed to support the many deserving and promising programs in New Jersey, the Commission is very grateful and fortunate to be the beneficiaries of these two very successful White Beeches events.

The New Jersey Breast and Prostate Cancer Research Funds



The New Jersey Breast Cancer Research Fund (BCRF), and the new Prostate Cancer Research Fund (PCRF), had a successful year in tax year 2003.

The BCRF finished number one amongst income tax choices, raising over \$240,000 for breast cancer research. Additionally, the PCRF had a great start, finishing number one amongst the new charitable choices, raising over \$21,495 for tax year 2003.

When these funds are combined with private donations and other special project revenues, the NJCCR will be able to award more grants, fellowships, and scholarships to breast and prostate cancer researchers throughout the state.

Join the Drive to Conquer Cancer

The NJCCR also administers the proceeds raised through the Conquer Cancer license plate. The plate is available at local Division of Motor Vehicle offices and can be purchased at any time during the registration cycle for \$50 (\$42 goes to cancer research), with a \$10 annual renewal fee (100% of the renewal fee goes to cancer research projects).



In 2004, over 5,200 plates were sold, raising more than \$500,000, when renewal fees are included, for cancer research. With the consistent success of the license plate, New Jersey cancer researchers can look forward to additional grant and fellowship awards.





2004 — The Year's Highlights

The year 2004 was a significant transition period for the NJCCR. However, the following highlights illustrate that the past year has recorded excellent achievements, thereby establishing the new NJCCR with a strong foundation to build on in the future.

Quality of Life Survey

Quality of Life (QOL) is an essential component of the overall health status of individuals. It is defined as a patient's sense of well being which includes the perception of physical, psychological and spiritual functioning. The importance of QOL is further validated with the introduction of U.S. Senate bill S.2965, "The Quality of Care for Individuals with Cancer Act". A central focus of this legislation is on the development of a core set of quality cancer care measures.

Health Related Quality of Life Assessment Tools for Cancer Patients

Name of Questionnaire	Brief Pain Inventory	Brief Fatigue Inventory	Distress Thermometer	EORTC-QLQ	FACT-G	LASA Scales	Medical Outcomes Study Short Form-36	Nottingham Health Profile	Pain Smiley Faces	Pain Thermometer	Rotterdam Symptom Checklist	Sickness Impact Profile
Developer	Charles E. Coyne, 1989	The University of Texas, M.D. Anderson	Jennie Holand, MSKCC	European Organization for Research and Treatment of Cancer, 1993	David Cella, 1989	Freeman and Davis, 1976	Paul D. Geisser and John E. Ware, 1988	Joseph Horst, 1981	Goldman	Jennie Holand, MSKCC	JGH de Raaij, PCE van Rossum, JJA Poppo, JP Nijss	Harold Bergner, Revised in 1981
Description	Measures the severity of cancer pain and its impact on the patient's functioning.	To assess the severity of fatigue and the impact of fatigue on daily activities in cancer patients.	A rapid screening tool to evaluate distress in cancer patients.	Modular system for evaluating the QOL of cancer patients participating in international clinical trials.	Used in oncology research and to assess symptoms and QOL issues that are relevant to various forms of cancer.	Widely used in QOL research in oncology.	Physical functioning, role limitations due to physical and emotional problems, pain, social functioning, mental health, energy/fatigue, health perceptions.	Designed to give a brief indication of perceived physical, social and emotional health problems.	There are a variety of versions.	A rapid screening tool to evaluate pain in cancer patients.	Cancer-specific tool to measure psychological and physical distress in cancer patients participating in clinical research.	Evaluates the impact of disease on physical and emotional functioning. Patient's respond to items as they are on that day.
Number of Items	20	11	1	30	27	25	36	38	1	1	30 + 8 as ADC's	136 statements in 12 categories
Categories	Intensity of pain, impact of pain, selected words to which have describes the pain and indication to the extent and duration of pain relief from analgesics.	Patient disability as a result of their fatigue and duration and severity of the fatigue.	Rates distress.	Function, symptoms, overall judgment of health status and physical problems of cancer and its treatment.	Overall QOL, physical, social, emotional, and functional well-being.	Symptoms, aspects of functioning, and overall QOL.	Used in comparison with disease specific measures as an outcome measure in clinical practice and research.	Physical mobility, pain, social isolation, emotional reactions, energy, and sleep.	Used to indicate the level of pain felt by a patient.	Rates pain.	Physical and psychological symptoms, and ADC's.	Dimensions include: physical, psychological and independence (ex. eating, working) components.
Administration	Self or interviewer	Self or interviewer	Interviewer	Self or interviewer	Self	Self	Self or interviewer	Self	Self	Interview	Self	Self or interviewer
Time to Complete	10-15 minutes	5 minutes	Under a minute	11 - 12 minutes	5 minutes	5-10 minutes	5-10 minutes, 15 for the elderly	5-10 minutes	Under a minute	Under a minute	8 minutes	5-10 minutes (self) 20-30 minutes (interviewer)
Scaling of Items	0-10 point scale to record the intensity of the pain and the impact of the pain.	0-10 point scale to record the level of fatigue.	A picture of a thermometer numbered 0-10 is shown to a patient. The patient is then asked, "How would you rate your distress today, on a scale of 0-10?" There is also a set of "Yes" or "No" questions.	Variety of "Yes" and "No" questions and 4-point scale and 7-point scale questions.	5-point rating scale from 0-4.	Consists of a 100-millimeter line with descriptors at each end. Patients mark their status along the line.	"Yes" and "No" questions, 5-point and 4-point scale questions.	"Yes" and "No" questions.	7 picture faces vary from a smile to a decrease in the smile in each picture, until there is a frown.	A picture of a thermometer numbered 0-10 is shown to a patient. The patient is then asked, "How would you rate your pain today, on a scale of 0-10?"	4-point scale.	Respondents check only the statements that describe them (yes/no).

Authors: Wendy C. Budin, PhD, RN, BC & Nancy Chiochi, RN, RN
Seton Hall University, College of Nursing

The Nursing/Psychosocial Advisory Group to the New Jersey Commission on Cancer Research
Summer 2004



Dr. Wendy Budin and Nancy Chiochi of Seton Hall University, College of Nursing, created this Quality of Life Assessment Tool Poster to be used as a quick reference guide in a healthcare setting.

There are QOL instruments that have been shown to have adequate validity and reliability and are able to distinguish patients according to their performance status. The multidimensionality, complexity, and individuality of how QOL is perceived by each patient warrants the use of evidenced-based QOL assessment tools. Gaining knowledge of which health care providers are measuring QOL and how they are assessing QOL must be pursued with the same rigor as the study and development of effective QOL measurements.

A 2002 QOL survey that focused on New Jersey medical oncologist's use of assessment tools provided an outlook of inconsistent practices throughout the state. In 2004, researchers at Seton Hall University, Rutgers University, and the NJCCR initiated a similar study that will assess nurses' use of QOL tools.

The purpose will be to review New Jersey oncology nurses' use of QOL tools, to assess their knowledge of specific QOL instruments, and to evaluate the barriers they see to formal QOL assessment.

This work is relevant to the treatment of cancer patients because understanding the use of formal QOL tools and knowledge of barriers to the application of QOL tools can provide a basis for the educational needs of providers. The comprehension of these provider barriers to QOL tools is important when considering the development or improvement of QOL measurements.

In addition, this better understanding will foster effective approaches and interventions for patient care. Awareness of patient's perceptions about their QOL facilitates better communication and care and illuminates the capacity to appreciate the uniqueness of individual experiences.

Revised Resource Book for Cancer Patients in New Jersey

The Joint Psychosocial & Nursing Advisory Group to the New Jersey Commission on Cancer Research (NJCCR) is working towards updating the *Resource Book for Cancer Patients in New Jersey*, made possible by an educational fund supported in part by the purchases of the Conquer Cancer license plate.

There are over 350,000 cancer survivors in New Jersey who face a host of issues, which can be confusing, overwhelming and frightening. The resource book's intention is to offer education in lay terms about the disease and its treatment, and to direct cancer survivors to the several excellent programs and services available in New Jersey.

Originally published in 1991, with over 100,000 books distributed to date, the booklet will be revised to reflect additional issues and current resources available. The *Resource Book for Cancer Patients in New Jersey* will be made available to all New Jersey hospital cancer centers and oncology offices across the state or made available directly by calling the NJCCR at 609.633.6552.

Aging & Cancer In New Jersey

In the coming decade, the proportion of the population over the age of 65 years is expected to increase dramatically due to increasing life spans and the aging of the baby boomers. Currently, New Jersey has over

1.11 million residents who are over 65 years or 13.2% of the population. Projections for future growth estimate that almost 1.76 million people or 17% will be over the age of 65 by 2025. New Jersey's older adult population is likely to be more diverse and have larger portions of minorities than most other states.

Cancer affects older adults disproportionately and represents a major public health concern. Age is the greatest risk factor for cancer. In New Jersey, 64% of men and 58% of women who are diagnosed this year with cancer will be over 65 years of age. In addition, nearly 70% of cancer deaths occur in adults over 65 years of age.

Furthermore, cancer deaths for men over 65 years are almost 21 times higher than those under 65 years. Women over 65 years of age are almost 14 times more likely to die from cancer than females under age 65 years. These trends have changed over time. Studies show that cancer deaths have been decreasing over time in younger people but staying level in older adults.

Additionally, New Jersey mortality rates are higher than national averages for the majority of cancer sites. Cancer is now the leading cause of death in the United States and the expectation by experts is that it will continue to be so for several decades unless changes to the high mortality rates in older adults can be made. It is for these reasons that the NJCCR's Cancer & Aging Task Force is working to produce a white paper on this important issue.

IMPACT NJ

(Improving Minority and Medically-underserved Participation and Access to Clinical Trials in New Jersey)

IMPACT NJ is a special educational initiative under the umbrella of the NJCCR, that aspires to raise awareness about the value of clinical trials, address myths and barriers to participation, improve cultural



Pictured L-R: A training session at Calvary United Methodist Church in East Orange, NJ, included the following speakers: Rhonda Berry, Breast Cancer Survivor, Diann Boyd, Newark Beth Israel Medical Center, Michael Tolen, NJCCR, Jerrod Douglas, 100 Black Men of NJ, Ann Marie Hill, NJCCR and Deborah Bethea, Newark Beth Israel Medical Center.

competency of researches/healthcare providers, improve access to clinical trials at a local level, and open a dialogue among researchers and communities to find solutions.

Created in 2001, IMPACT's partnership includes community leaders, research institutions, health care organizations and faith based groups. Four cities, Newark, Camden, New Brunswick, and Union City, have been identified to serve as model communities to plan, implement and evaluate its goals.

The partnership has recognized that three critical tiers must be included in

any successful effort to reach its goals. The community must have the knowledge and understanding to be effective self-advocates and have a strong voice at the table, primary care physicians must be partners in the clinical trial process, and researchers must be sensitive to the needs and culture of their patients who enroll in clinical trials.

IMPACT NJ was launched in Newark in the late fall of 2003, and since that time, six major programs were sponsored and 105 community leaders trained. Pre- and post-tests were used to evaluate all programs, and constant feedback from participants, community members and survivors was requested and used to improve the program. Adjustments and refinements occurred over 2003 and 2004.

Survivors have been a key element of community education and have helped disperse myths and concerns that the communities have and most importantly, have helped open doorways to further discussion. Simplified evaluations were developed and additional educational tools created. IMPACT's focus has expanded from increasing knowledge and understanding of the clinical trial process, to engaging in discussion of identified barriers, initiating consensus problem-solving, promoting self-advocacy and garnering support to continue the education and dialogue within participants own sphere's of influence.

Cancer survivors who have participated in clinical trials and who could share their story during the educational component were recruited and trained; Powerpoint presentations were developed working closely with community members; roles and responsibilities for IMPACT NJ members were defined (eg. Community Ambassadors who would spread the message about clinical trials in their community through group training and/or one-on-one interactions); incentives and supportive materials were created and additional community and church leaders recruited.

The program expanded into Camden in 2004 and over 86 community leaders have been trained with additional sessions scheduled for 2005. A part time community outreach worker, who is a minister, has been hired in Camden to expand into faith-based organizations. Plans to implement the program in New Brunswick are ongoing and a Spanish program is under development to be implemented in the fall of 2005 in Union City/Jersey City under the leadership of Save Latin America, Inc. and the Liberty Community Health Center.

New Jersey Governor's Conference on Effective Partnering in Cancer Research – Prevention

The New Jersey Commission on Cancer Research was pleased to provide a supportive role in the second annual *New Jersey Governor's Conference on Effective Partnering in Cancer Research*, held on May 16-18,



2004, at the Hyatt Regency Jersey City, New Jersey. Co-hosted by the former New Jersey Governor James E. McGreevey and William N. Hait, M.D., Ph.D., Director, The Cancer Institute of New Jersey (CINJ), and Associate Dean of Oncology Programs, UMDNJ-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, this conference was an integral part of the Governor's "five-point plan" to eradicate cancer in the state.

Program Committee Chairs Edmond C. Lattime, Ph.D., and Ann Marie Hill, M.B.A., encouraged casting aside traditional didactic presentations; instead the meeting provided a "roll-up-your-sleeves" opportunity to work with leaders in the field to address critical challenges to, and concrete methods for accelerating programs.

This conference brought together national and international experts in cancer prevention to develop plans for facilitating the movement of discoveries in prevention research to public health application. A report on this conference will be published that will demonstrate New Jersey's readiness to serve as a model for developing and testing selected recommendations.

Tenth Conference on Cancer Therapy with Antibodies and Immunoconjugates

The *Tenth Conference on Cancer Therapy with Antibodies and Immunoconjugates* was presented by the Center for Molecular Medicine and Immunology at the Garden State Cancer Center (CMMI/GSCC) and the New Jersey Commission on Cancer Research, which provided an unrestricted educational grant in support of the program. This 3 day conference, held October 21-23, 2004, at the Princeton Westin, brought together over 150 cancer researchers from around the world to discuss their work and develop collaborations in the field of cancer immunology, cell biology, molecular biology, nuclear medicine, pharmacology, and clinical oncology.

The latest findings on new molecular targets, new antibody constructs, combinations of antibodies and cytokines drugs and other antibodies, with an emphasis on clinical studies were presented with a number of oral and poster presentations. The proceedings of the conference will be published as a supplement to a major cancer journal, such as Clinical Cancer Research, emphasizing the inclusion of new, original results.

David M. Goldenberg, Sc.D., M.D., President CMMI/GSCC, served as Chairman, and Sally J. DeNardo, M.D., of the University of California-Davis, served as Co-Chair of the program. The scientific committee included Jean-Francois M. Chatal, M.D., Universite de Nantes, Nantes, France; Gerald L. DeNardo, M.D., University of California-Davis, Sacramento, California; Ludger M. Dinkelborg, Ph.D., Schering AG, Berlin, Germany; Phil Gold, M.D., Ph.D., McGill University Health Centre, Montreal, Quebec, Canada; Stanley J. Goldsmith, M.D., New York Presbyterian Hospital-Weill Medical College of Cornell University, New York, New York; Susan J. Knox, M.D., Ph.D., Stanford University, Stanford, California; Steven M. Larson, M.D., Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, New York, New York; Claude Meares, Ph.D., University of California-Davis, Sacramento, California; David R. Parkinson, M.D., Amgen, Thousand Oaks, California; David A. Scheinberg, M.D., Ph.D., Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, New York, New York; Mohit Trikha, Ph.D., Centocor, Inc., Malvern, Pennsylvania; and Ellen S. Vitetta, Ph.D., University of Texas, Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas, Dallas, Texas.



A Tribute to John J. Fay, Jr.

NJCCR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (1984 – 1989)

*What we do for ourselves dies with us.
What we do for others and the world remains and is immortal.*
- Albert Pine

John J. Fay, Jr., the much admired and highly respected legislator, state ombudsman and first New Jersey Commission on Cancer Research (NJCCR) executive director passed away in 2003.

Jack Fay began his exemplary life serving honorably and with distinction during World War II on board the U.S.S. Thorn, the U.S.S. Snap and with the U.S. Navy Underwater Demolition Team.

Following World War II, Jack Fay returned to civilian life to inspire high school students by teaching and instilling in them an appreciation of history, economics and public service. After two decades of teaching and mentoring to numerous young leaders of New Jersey, Fay pursued and won elected office.

In every elected office he has held – as Councilman in Woodbridge, as Middlesex County Freeholder, as a member of the State Assembly and as State Senator – Jack Fay has been a clarion voice rallying support and protection for people in need.

On May 12, 1984, Jack Fay officially assumed responsibility as executive director of the NJCCR. A beloved visionary who led by example, Fay earned the respect of the statewide oncology community as well as the admiration, and loyalty of his entire staff. Inherently fair and compassionate, he was an exemplary leader who encouraged and fostered team effort and served as a mentor to many.

On a very personal note, I am fortunate to have had the opportunity to work with Jack as his scientific administrator for the NJCCR. He was both a mentor and good friend. Jack had the unique ability to get things accomplished; nothing was impossible or even too difficult. He never said “No” to projects championed by the many volunteers who have helped to make the NJCCR a successful organization. Jack’s response was always, “We can do that.” He was only interested in results, not personal credit. Straightforward, honest, open-minded, intelligent, hardworking; these attributes define his dealings with everyone.

On behalf of the Commissioners and the entire membership of the NJCCR, I extend our deepest sympathies to Jack’s friends and his beloved wife Carole.

Ann Marie Hill
Executive Director



Jack Fay and Ann Marie Hill are pictured here at the 1993 Working Conference on Cancer Research, or what is now known as The Annual Retreat on Cancer Research.

“There is no doubt that our progress to date is in no small measure due to his efforts.”

ANNA MARIE SKALKA, PH.D.
Chair, NJCCR

“The dedication, commitment and professional abilities of Jack became evident immediately.”

FREDERICK B. COHEN, M.D.
Former Chair, NJCCR



RICHARD J. CODEY
Acting Governor