



LINEBERGER COMPREHENSIVE
CANCER CENTER

TODAY'S BEST CARE. TOMORROW'S BEST HOPE.



UNC LINEBERGER COMPREHENSIVE CANCER CENTER
2018 DONOR HONOR ROLL

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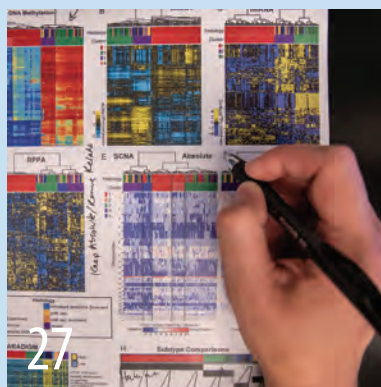
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On the cover: Ian Dale, center, treated with CAR-T immunotherapy, with (left to right) CAR-T researchers Jonathan Serody, MD, Barbara Savoldo, MD, PhD, and Gianpietro Dotti, MD, with Thomas Shea, MD, Dale's physician. See story, page 18.



A MESSAGE FROM OUR DIRECTOR

Over the past two decades, the UNC Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center has grown dramatically, becoming the largest research entity at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and extending our reach across the state, through the Southeast region, across the nation and even to the shores of far off continents.

Our faculty, researchers, physicians and care teams are all integral parts of that growth, but credit is due to our extended Lineberger family, as well. Our dedicated donors like you are vital team members in this shared endeavor against cancer. Because of your support, we are able to provide today's best care and tomorrow's best hope for patients and their families.

We are not the country's largest cancer center, but I'm confident that we're pre-eminent in providing compassionate care and the latest in innovations. I am so proud of the great group of people we have that are dedicated to that mission, from physicians to nurses to basic scientists and you, our donors. We are national leaders in the cancer field, and we work diligently to gain a better scientific understanding of cancer at the molecular level, apply that knowledge to the treatment of our patients in the clinic and to optimize outcomes across society, particularly in North Carolina, through our population science program. North Carolina is a microcosm of the nation; we have rural areas, beaches, mountains and urban settings that mirror the rest of the country. If we can take care of North Carolina, we can take care of the rest of the world.

In these pages you'll read about donors just like you who have made a difference in the lives of North Carolinians, the physicians who treat them, and the researchers and faculty who are inspired and funded by them. You'll learn about CAR-T immunotherapy, something developed and actively used as a treatment right here at UNC Lineberger. You'll gain insights about our outstanding professors and faculty members and the amazing progress they are making in fields like ovarian cancer, lung cancer and cancer genomics. You'll also find out how you can continue to play a key role in helping us provide today's best care and tomorrow's best hope through For All Kind: the Campaign for Carolina.

Your support has made the past 20 years of pivotal research, top-notch care and forward-thinking advancements possible. I appreciate your dedication to our mission, and I can't wait to see what the next 20 years have in store for cancer care. Thank you for all that you do.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "H. Earp".

H. SHELTON EARP, MD

Director, UNC Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center
Lineberger Professor of Cancer Research



LINEBERGER COMPREHENSIVE
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TODAY'S
BEST CARE.



The Comprehensive Cancer Support Program is a multidisciplinary program dedicated to helping patients, caregivers and families with cancer treatment, recovery and survivorship.

Support programs offer patients resources, guidance



Chemotherapy, radiation and surgery are the pillars of cancer care, but sometimes it's the little things that can have a big impact on patients while they're receiving their treatment – a gas card to help offset the cost of driving to a doctor's appointment or financial assistance with paying a bill that seems out of reach. Many people describe having cancer as being on a journey, one that sometimes comes with confusing maps and directions or without signposts and guidebooks. That's why UNC Lineberger founded the Comprehensive Cancer Support Program, a multidisciplinary program dedicated to helping patients, caregivers and families with cancer treatment, recovery and survivorship.

To donors like Drew and Tammy Woerner and Rodney Long, the patient journey is what keeps them invested in UNC Lineberger, and easing the burden for those patients is their ultimate goal.



Tammy and Drew Woerner

For the Woerners, a family history of cancer and philanthropy made it an easy decision to support the Comprehensive Cancer Support Program through the Betty and Otto Woerner Endowment Fund. Drew Woerner's father established the fund, and its stewardship is something Drew and Tammy Woerner have continued in his memory. The fund has grown to \$1 million in value and provides patients with small but important amounts of financial support, from gas cards to funds to help pay everyday bills, like rent and insurance payments.

"We're trying to help people who don't have the resources," Drew Woerner said, citing the cost of driving to Chapel Hill for treatment. "We're just interested in helping

people to make it and ease their burden. It's tough to go through cancer even if they can afford it."

For Long, his late wife's commitment to help others – even while she was undergoing treatment for cancer – inspired his family to support the Patient and Family Resource Center, which houses many of the Comprehensive Cancer Support Program's services and was named in Mary Anne's memory.

"She always faced every day with a smile and worked hard to remain physically strong in order to continue the battle," Long said of Mary Anne. "Throughout it all, she wanted to help others."

The Mary Anne Long Patient and Family Resource Center offers patients and their families a library, business center, boutique for wig and head coverings, private consultation rooms and relaxation spaces. It also provides a range of informational and educational services, including evaluation for legal and financial assistance and referrals to local and national organizations.

Long said the center's staff, volunteers and administrators share Mary Anne's spirit and warmth, which makes it quite fitting that the Patient and Family Resource Center be named for Mary Anne.

"They provide information, an island of peace in the middle of a stormy sea, caring and warmth, but most of all, love for all those who walk beneath her name," he said. "She would have it no other way."

For Drew Woerner, family memories and helping those in need are what motivates him. "(Giving is) a wonderful way to help fellow North Carolinians get through a traumatic health experience."



Rodney Long speaks with Donald Rosenstein, MD, at the naming ceremony for the Mary Anne Long Patient and Family Resource Center, in honor of Long's late wife.

Endowed professorships enable faculty to focus on advancing cancer care and research

It wasn't too long ago that physicians and scientists sought appointments at an academic medical center for the opportunity and resources to carry out their life's work. Today, a career in academic medicine is far more challenging, due in part to shrinking federal grant support and growing administrative and regulatory demands.

To counter this, UNC Lineberger is working with its most generous donors to create endowed professorships to provide sustained funding for its most accomplished faculty and to make it easier to recruit high-performing faculty from outside the university.

Lisa Carey, MD, knows firsthand about the value of holding an endowed professorship. She is the Richardson and Marilyn Jacobs Preyer Distinguished Professor in Breast Cancer Research, established by a donation from Marilyn Jacobs Preyer and L. Richardson Preyer, Jr. of Hillsborough, North Carolina.

"Distinguished professorships are crucial to attracting and retaining the best and the brightest," Carey said. "These professorships provide stable and consistent funding year to year that faculty use in the way that helps them most – some for seed money to jump start promising research, some to protect time away from clinic to do research, some to bring in staff to help them be more efficient and see more patients."

William Kim, MD, the Rush Dickson Distinguished Professor of Medicine and Genetics, is a clinician-scientist focused on advancing cancer genetics, clinical research and urologic oncology. Kim's work looks to impact the clinical care of bladder or kidney cancer patients by developing a predictive biomarker to help select the best therapy for a specific patient or through identifying or developing a novel drug target that can either extend these cancer patients' lives or lead to their cure.

"I like to lead by example, which, to me, means hard work, thoughtful science and rigorous experiments," Kim said. "I am very thoughtful about how we spend this gift, and I constantly remind my trainees that someone has entrusted us to use this endowment wisely. I think that this gives us all a lot of appreciation that what we are doing is important and meaningful."

Charles Perou, PhD, the May Goldman Shaw Distinguished Professor of Molecular Oncology, conducts research that encompasses cancer biology, genomics, genetics, bioinformatics, statistics, systems biology, and the treatment of cancer patients in the clinic.

"These funds are critical to allow us to explore new ideas, and start new technical approaches. They really fuel creativity and discovery and provide resources to start new avenues of research," Perou said. "These funds also provide a level of scientific security as NIH funds go up and down. They also provide a glue between other grants, which help to create a larger and more homogenous picture of scientific approaches."

Lisa A. Carey, MD



William Kim, MD



Charles Perou, PhD





Chad Pecot has a full perspective on cancer

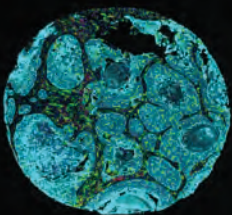
Chad Pecot, MD, is a gifted physician-scientist who is keenly focused on developing new understandings of the mechanisms driving lung cancer with the goal of offering patients better, more effective treatments. This vision and drive is shaped by his training and his experience as a cancer survivor. Without a testicular cancer diagnosis in college, Pecot said he likely would have continued studying to become an engineer. Instead, having cancer led him to pursue a medical degree with the intention of becoming an oncologist. Pecot, a UNC Lineberger member and an assistant professor in the UNC School of Medicine, said his curiosity about how and why cancer spreads and what makes lung cancer so difficult to treat effectively drew him to specialize in the study and treatment of the disease.

A team of researchers led by Pecot recently published a breakthrough study that sheds light on how lung cancer might spread. Specifically, they discovered that when a type of immune cell travels to a tumor, it releases a protein called Factor 13. This protein creates a scaffold-like web that allows for tumor cells to travel across it.

“The cancer cells tether onto that scaffold and move across it,” Pecot said. “If you can shut down that scaffold, you can shut down the cancer from spreading.”

The team is still exploring the implications of this finding, looking for new drugs to block Factor 13 and identifying other cancers that behave the same way. In the meantime, Pecot continues to be inspired by his patients, who show him glimpses of a world where lung cancer no longer claims lives.

“The more I started caring for people with lung cancer, the more I saw that the majority of them would succumb to the illness,” Pecot said. “It wasn’t enough for me simply to care for patients in the clinic. Progress against this disease has been modest. I wanted to pick an area of research that if I could make a difference, it would have a massive impact.”



A lung cancer sample showing CD14-positive regions in green, CCR2-positive regions in red, and pan-cytokeratin in aqua.

Young adults get support from community, nonprofits

It's an unfortunate reality that cancer affects people of all ages, but it can be especially devastating when an adolescent or young adult learns he or she has cancer. Caring for this population presents a range of challenges that are often different from those that pediatric and older adult patients face. UNC Lineberger recognized this care gap and created the Adolescent and Young Adult (AYA) Cancer Support Program in 2015 to provide young people ages 13-30 with age-appropriate care.

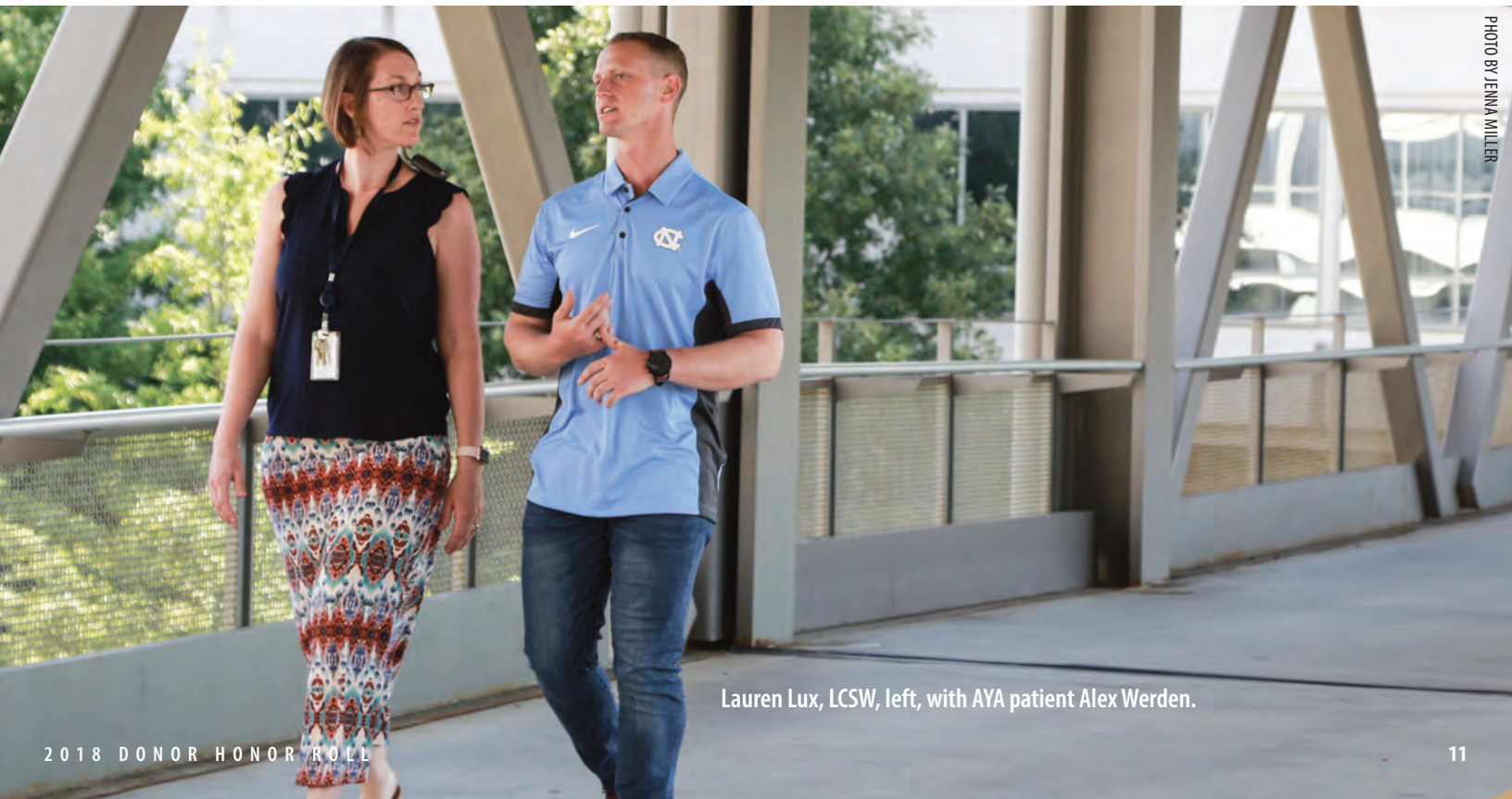
UNC Lineberger's AYA program was established – and continues to grow – through the support of the Be Loud! Sophie Foundation, whose mission is to support adolescent and young adult cancer patients and their families at UNC hospitals. The AYA program offers individual and peer support, patient programs and events, and financial and emotional resources for young adults during and after cancer treatment.

Led by Lauren Lux, LCSW, the AYA program quickly caught the attention of programs and organizations both inside and outside North Carolina. This past spring, the national nonprofit Teen Cancer America partnered with Raleigh-based First Citizens Bank to provide a significant grant in support of the cancer center's AYA cancer support program.

UNC Lineberger is the first cancer center in North Carolina to participate in a partnership with Teen Cancer America. Andrew Smitherman, MD, MSc, medical director of UNC Lineberger's AYA program, and Lux lead the effort.

"Our goal is to further develop UNC Lineberger as a world-class cancer center focused on AYA research, treatment and care – one that will continue to flourish over time," Smitherman said.

Simon Davies, executive director of Teen Cancer America, said the grant will complement "the outstanding work of the Be Loud! Sophie Foundation, which has supported AYA cancer patients and their families at UNC Hospitals. They've recognized the need to help teens with cancer for several years and have made a tremendous difference. We look forward to working in concert with them as the AYA program at UNC Lineberger grows and helps even more young people."



Lauren Lux, LCSW, left, with AYA patient Alex Werden.

PHOTO BY JENNA MILLER



Nick Victorino, BSN, RN, CEN, nurse manager for the third floor infusion in the N.C. Cancer Hospital, co-hosted a tour for Dan Namarika and other health leaders from Malawi.

UNC Lineberger partnership seeks to boost cancer care in sub-Saharan Africa

UNC Lineberger researchers are working to make major strides to improve cancer treatment and research in Malawi, a country in sub-Saharan Africa with a growing cancer burden and limited cancer care infrastructure. Through a variety of research projects and collaborations, UNC Lineberger physicians and researchers aim to bring cancer care best practices to Malawi for the first time, as well as to improve cancer diagnoses, awareness and treatment.

The partnership is part of UNC Project-Malawi, a collaboration launched in 1990 initially to help with HIV management, but now, due to a number of factors, cancer has emerged as a growing health problem in the country.

“We are excited to continue working with our Malawi partners to really impact this critical public health problem in this part of the world,” said UNC Lineberger’s Satish Gopal, MD, cancer program director for UNC Project-Malawi and an associate professor in the UNC School of Medicine and UNC Gillings School of Global Public Health.

Gopal helped to coordinate a visit to Chapel Hill by Malawian health leaders in June. UNC Lineberger, university and UNC Health Care leaders hosted the delegation, which included Principal Secretary for Health Dan Namarika, MBBS, the second highest ranking official at the Malawi Ministry of Health. The group toured UNC Lineberger’s research facilities and the N.C. Cancer Hospital, and learned about patient flow, equipment, costs of care and staffing.

The goal of the visit was to strengthen a longstanding research and health care partnership in advance of the opening of Malawi’s first dedicated cancer center, which will provide radiation oncology treatment to the country’s nearly 18 million people.

“We hope this cancer center should be ready by the end of the year,” Namarika said. “In terms of operationalization, that’s why this team is here ... to learn from you.”

A range of research and care efforts are underway in Malawi that UNC Lineberger leaders hope will enhance cancer care in the country and globally, including a project aimed at improving survival rates for Burkitt lymphoma, a childhood cancer that is curable in the U.S. They hope to bring the survival rate in Malawi from approximately 30 percent at 18 months to 60 percent. Through one project led by Kate Westmoreland, MD, researchers will design comics and apps to promote awareness about Burkitt lymphoma and improve patient communications.

“Treatment abandonment is a huge issue for children with Burkitt lymphoma throughout Africa, and is one of many reasons they do poorly relative to children in high-income countries,” Gopal said. “This proposal will develop innovative, culturally appropriate education materials and retention systems using mobile technology to try and address this.”



LINEBERGER COMPREHENSIVE
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TOMORROW'S BEST HOPE.




Pope Foundation gift helps train leaders of tomorrow

UNC Lineberger's growing global recognition as a leader in cancer research, treatment and care is the product of the cancer center's commitment to North Carolina and the investments the state and its citizens have made to support UNC Lineberger's mission of providing today's best care and tomorrow's best hope.

The John William Pope Foundation in Raleigh, with a proud history of providing grants to organizations focused on improving the well-being of North Carolinians, recently pledged \$5 million to support cancer research at UNC Lineberger. The gift was part of For All Kind: the Campaign for Carolina, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill's most ambitious fundraising campaign.

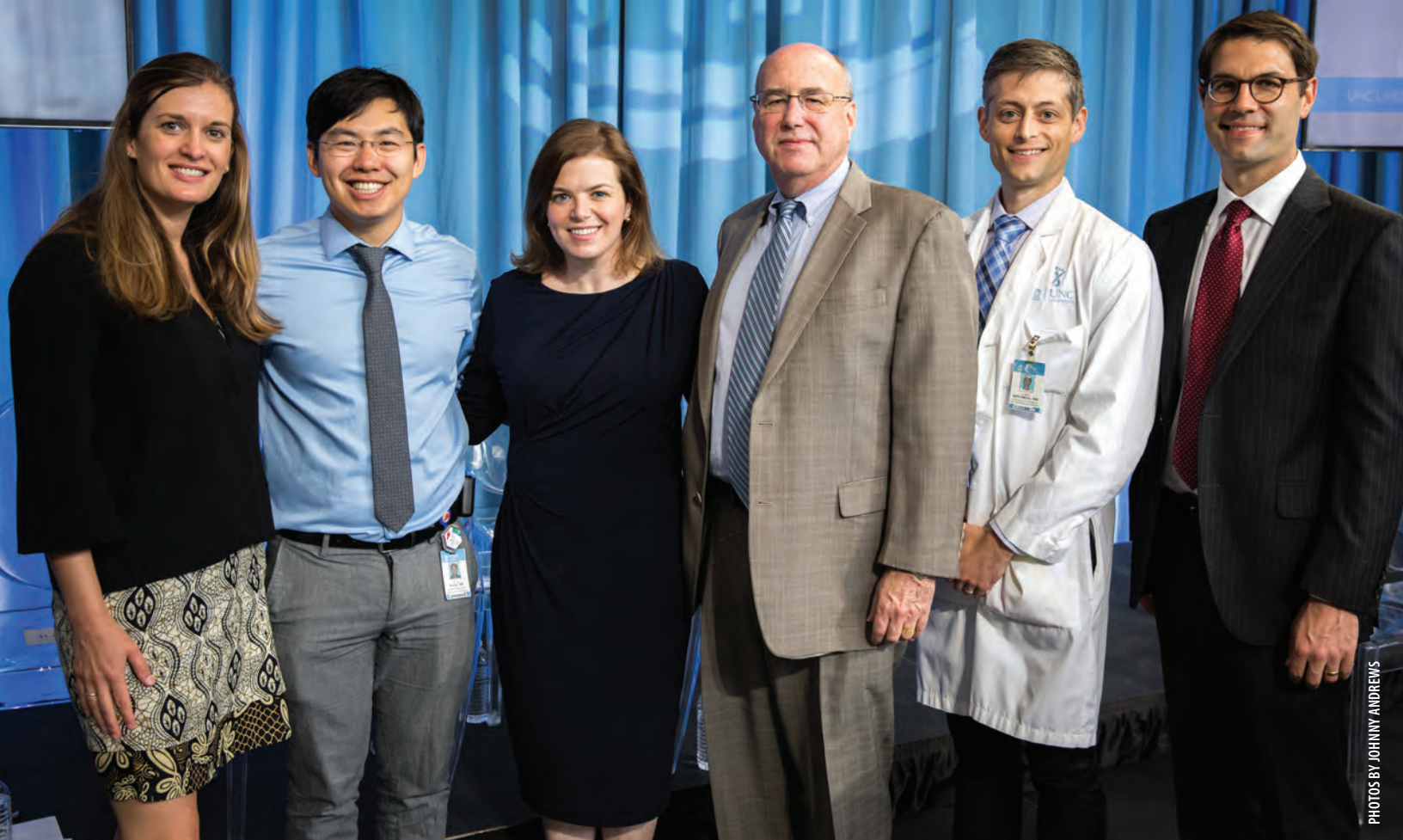
The gift to UNC Lineberger establishes the John William Pope "Tomorrow's Best Hope" Endowed Fellowship Fund. The fund will generate nearly \$250,000 each year for competitively awarded fellowships, which UNC Lineberger will use to recruit, educate and train future oncologists and cancer researchers to reduce cancer's burden in the state and beyond.

"The way to make an impact on cancer in North Carolina is to attract 'the brightest and the best' to UNC," said H. Shelton Earp, MD, director of UNC Lineberger. "We have a world-class research effort across the clinical sciences, disease experts, technology and

A photograph showing a group of people seated in a row, facing right. In the foreground, a man with grey hair, wearing a white lab coat over a blue checkered shirt and a red tie, is looking towards the right. Behind him, a woman with dark hair is partially visible. Further back, a Black man in a dark suit and a woman in a white lab coat are also visible, all looking in the same direction. The background is a blurred blue and white setting.

UNC Lineberger physician Thomas Shea, MD, attends the announcement.

Art Pope, chairman of The John William Pope Foundation, and Joyce Pope, UNC Lineberger Board of Visitors member, center, stand with Clinical Trainee Awards recipients Kate Westmoreland, MD, Kyle Wang, MD, Aaron Mitchell, MD, and Tyler Ellis, MD.



innovation, but we need that extra edge to compete at the highest level. The Pope Foundation realized that these great young minds can make the difference for North Carolina patients and their families. They have invested in us so the future will be bright.”

“The foundation supports the challenge to give back to UNC’s ‘strategic triad’ of teaching, research and public service,” said Art Pope, Pope Foundation chairman and a Carolina alumnus. “When Chapel Hill and other state institutions of higher education succeed at their core missions, we all succeed.”

This latest gift builds on the Pope Foundation’s generous support of the cancer center. It previously funded the Pope Clinical Trainee Award, which is presented to the most promising and productive physician-scientists in training at UNC Lineberger. It also established The John William Pope Distinguished Professorship for Cancer Research, which was awarded to Thomas Shea, MD.

The 2018 Clinical Trainee Awards recipients were C. Tyler Ellis, MD, Aaron Mitchell, MD, Kyle Wang, MD, and Kate Westmoreland, MD. The recipients are already making waves in their fields, focusing on areas like research on rectal cancer treatment outcomes, financial conflicts of interest, side effects from brain cancer radiation, and survival for children with blood cancer in sub-Saharan Africa.

“It will bridge the gap between treatment and science, drive translational research, and make good on UNC Lineberger’s promise to offer ‘Today’s Best Care and Tomorrow’s Best Hope,’” UNC Health Care CEO William L. Roper, MD, MPH, said of the new gift.



Gianpietro Dotti, MD, and Barbara Savoldo, MD, PhD, pictured here with Board of Visitors member Alice Lehman, center, help lead the CAR-T program at UNC Lineberger.

Investing in tomorrow's best hope makes innovative treatment available today

Dating back to the cancer center's founding more than 40 years ago, UNC Lineberger leaders have shared the philosophy that making strategic, early phase investments in technologies, personnel and therapeutic approaches could lead to transformative advances in the understanding and treatment of cancer.

This approach continues to demonstrate value today. UNC Lineberger's decision in 2014 to develop a world-class cellular immunotherapy program has led to the development of several experimental treatments for cancers that have not responded well to standard therapies.

"We are all too often reminded that cancer is an incredibly challenging disease to treat, but I am optimistic; we continue to make advances. The latest example is the major investment that we made setting up the infrastructure and recruiting world class faculty to build a program that designs, develops and delivers individualized T-cell therapies to our patients. These chimeric antigen receptor T-cells, or CAR-T therapies, are already demonstrating early success in our clinical trials," said H. Shelton Earp, MD, director of UNC Lineberger and the Lineberger Professor of Cancer Research. "It is gratifying to see our

investments, and that of our supporters, are helping us provide clinical options for some patients when they had none. The idea to use the human immune system and its T-cells to treat cancer was just awarded this year's Nobel Prize. We wanted to bring that excitement and innovation to UNC."

From the recruitment of Gianpietro Dotti, MD, and Barbara Savoldo, MD, PhD, from Baylor College of Medicine to lead the program in 2015 to the construction of a U.S. Food and Drug Administration-approved Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) facility in which to engineer immune cell-based therapies, UNC Lineberger quickly established itself as one of only a select few academic centers in the United States with the facilities, technology and personnel that can genetically modify a patient's immune cells for clinical use.

"The establishment of our cellular immunotherapy program is significant for several reasons," said Jonathan Serody, MD, associate director of translational science at UNC Lineberger and a medical oncologist in the UNC Lineberger Leukemia and Lymphoma Program. "First, it provides a dedicated center to rigorously investigate these experimental therapies. Second, it means people who live in Southeastern U.S. can stay closer to home to undergo cellular immunotherapy treatment."

Dotti and Savoldo's recruitment, as well as critical support of the research initiative's infrastructure, were made possible by the University Cancer Research Fund, a landmark investment from the state of North Carolina for cancer research. Alice Lehman, the McMichael Family Foundation, the Wilson Family Foundation and the Barnhill Family Foundation also made significant philanthropic gifts to advance UNC Lineberger's cellular immunology program.

Bob Barnhill was an early believer in the therapy, supporting the research through the Barnhill Family Seed Grant Fund for Cancer Research in 2007 and The Barnhill Fund for Advances in Cellular Immunotherapy in 2016.

"We like to invest in things that we think will make a difference and offer a benefit for a long period of time," said Barnhill, who, together with his wife, Penny, is a member of the cancer center's Board of Visitors. "We have a lot of confidence that these grants will provide support that will allow the researcher to achieve some early success, and that success will lead to federal funding."

Thanks in part to private support, including the Barnhill Fund for Advances in Cellular Immunotherapy, UNC Lineberger researchers intend to open other trials that target multiple myeloma, ovarian cancer and glioblastoma.

For Alice Lehman, a supporter of CAR-T therapy and member of the cancer center's Board of Visitors, she hopes to see trials that look at solid tumor eradication in cancers like colon cancer, which took her husband, Frank, in 2013. Lehman, of Charlotte, has committed to donate \$4 million to the cellular immunotherapy research program at UNC Lineberger.

**Bob and Penny
Barnhill**



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INNOVATIVE TREATMENT OFFERS A NEW LEASE ON LIFE



PHOTO BY JOHNNY ANDREWS

Laura and Ian Dale

Ian Dale of Cary, North Carolina, knows what it's like to beat cancer. He's done it twice; first it was prostate cancer and then anaplastic large cell lymphoma. He credits his successful treatment to a good attitude and the expertise and care he received from the team at UNC Lineberger.

Dale, 62, is one of the first patients at N.C. Cancer Hospital, UNC Lineberger's clinical home, to receive chimeric antigen receptor T-cell (CAR-T) treatment. When standard therapies proved ineffective against his lymphoma, Dale was given a prognosis of four to six months, since the cancer was aggressive. Thomas Shea, MD, his physician told him about the CAR-T trial.

"I didn't hesitate," Dale said. "I signed up immediately."

While the treatment sounded daunting to Dale, he drew on the strength of his family and other cancer patients at the N.C. Cancer Hospital to help get him through it. His son, William, 21, had just enlisted in the U.S. Marines and was headed to boot camp when Dale learned of his diagnosis. Though he opted not to tell his son initially, he said the thought of his son working hard at boot camp inspired him to do the same.

"He didn't complain once," Dale said. "And I thought 'if this young man can get through boot camp, I can too. 'I was in boot camp with him."

Dale said he felt that same kinship with others in the hospital who were in treatment.

"In the hospital, you're all warriors together," he said. "And seeing other people with shaved heads, we acknowledged each other. It's like a brotherhood. You get a lot of support."

While the treatment was intense for Dale, he doesn't regret any time he spent at UNC Lineberger, and he developed a great deal of appreciation for everyone that helped him at the hospital.

"They have given me the ultimate gift," Dale said. "If it wasn't for them, I wouldn't be here."

Dale's appreciation is ongoing. He visits the hospital regularly and stops by the bone marrow transplant unit to visit the nurses and physicians that took care of him.

"I want to let them see that what they're doing works," he said. "There are success stories out here walking around."

“I want my legacy to be that I was a champion of trying to find a cure for the emperor of all maladies – cancer,” she said. “This was a way to help accomplish that.”

Ian Dale of Cary, North Carolina, personally understands the value UNC Lineberger’s CAR-T program. Dale was diagnosed in January 2016 with anaplastic large cell lymphoma and told he would live four to six months without treatment. He underwent chemotherapy and radiation, but the cancer spread to his liver and spleen. He participated in a UNC Lineberger clinical trial for cellular immunotherapy treatment.

“I have a whole new lease on life,” he said. “I’m here when I probably wouldn’t be.”

In addition to working on new potential CAR-T therapies for hard-to-treat cancers, UNC Lineberger researchers are focused on making the treatments safer. While CAR-T cell therapies have produced remarkable results in patients with acute lymphoblastic leukemia, there can be potentially lethal side effects to these treatments. Savoldo is developing a “safety switch” that can deactivate the CAR-T cells in case a patient experiences toxic side effects.

Earlier this year, Savoldo and her team initiated a clinical trial for a CAR-T cell treatment for acute lymphoblastic leukemia with a built-in-safety switch. This switch can halt the expansion of infused T-cells, and thereby reduce potentially lethal side effects, such as cytokine release syndrome. In addition, researchers believe this approach could help leukemia patients regenerate their immune system after it has been depleted by treatment.

It was that forward-thinking approach that led Andrew Miracle, UNC Lineberger Board of Visitors member and junior board member of the McMichael Family Foundation, and his wife, Liz, to pledge support for the program with a \$500,000 gift.



Andrew and Liz Miracle

“The kill switch is a second layer of protection, and the science behind it is exciting,” Miracle said. “I’d love to see it expanded beyond where it’s been effective so far and go beyond {acute lymphoblastic leukemia and acute myeloid leukemia} and become more efficient”

Miracle wants to see the research move forward into new frontiers in the cancer fight, making treatments more accessible to patients cost-wise and securing a future without cancer. Much like Miracle, Lehman envisions a new future for cancer patients through the CAR-T program.

“Right now, there’s no hope for metastatic cancer,” Lehman said. “I want to give cancer patients hope. I want to be part of the process.”

Lehman recalled conversations with her late sister and husband, where they hoped to stay healthy and fight long enough for a cure to emerge. Sadly, that wasn’t to be, but Lehman says she thinks they’d appreciate her dedication to securing a future for other cancer patients.

“I think they would say ‘you go, girl.’”

Parents honor son's memory with head and neck cancer fund

Tim McNelis lived an open life as an advocate and ally for those in need. And now, his father, David McNelis, and his mother, Gladys, are honoring Tim's legacy by bringing hope to those with head and neck cancers.

The McNelises pledged \$2 million to UNC Lineberger as part of a larger \$6 million gift to the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, to create the Timothy Robert McNelis Seed Grant for Head and Neck Cancer Research in memory of the couple's late son.

Tim McNelis was living in Phoenix when he found out he had HIV, and worried to his parents he wouldn't live five more years. But five years passed, David McNelis said, then five more and five more, with Tim's health stabilizing enough for him to enjoy traveling to New Zealand with his father and even bungee jumping off the Kawarau River bridge.

"Tim was a tremendous kid, who lived life on the edge," David McNelis said. "He wanted to try everything. He wanted to be involved."

Tim McNelis was a case manager for HIV patients in crisis, as well as an advocate who dedicated himself to the cause. Then Tim came down with cancer in his tonsils, and started treatment in Phoenix. David McNelis, a Carolina faculty member and graduate, didn't push his son to get treatment in North Carolina. "We encouraged him, but it was his decision to come to Lineberger," he said.

Tim McNelis underwent months of intense radiation and chemotherapy under the care of Neil Hayes, MD, MPH, at UNC Lineberger. Tim returned to Phoenix when his health improved, but the cancer returned as well, ultimately claiming his life.



David McNelis, and his wife, Gladys.

Honoring his son's legacy was important to David McNelis, and he recalls being with Tim during his final days and seeing the outpouring of support he got from friends and family. When considering making a gift to the university, the care Tim McNelis received at UNC Lineberger was something that made a lasting impression on his parents.

"All the people I met and encountered, everybody was absolutely overwhelmed by the level of care they received, the compassion and everything else," David McNelis said. "On one side, you have a lot of compassion, great bedside manner, and the second piece is you have top-notch doctors."

David McNelis hopes the seed grants will allow researchers to use data for proposals that can bring about funding for clinical trials, particularly in the field of head and neck cancers. He also thinks his son would appreciate his legacy of advocacy helping other cancer patients.

"(Tim would) be pleased. He liked Neil Hayes and the nurses; he liked them very much," David McNelis said. "Though the radiation was horrible, he liked (his caregivers). He would be very, very pleased."

Life legacy offers gifts for the future of ovarian cancer treatment

In life, Jean Ebert had a profound impact on those she encountered, from family members to friends, and even on those she'd just met. Her memory has made an even greater mark on those served by her legacy.

Jean Ebert was diagnosed with stage 3 ovarian cancer more than four years ago and was treated by Paola Gehrig, MD, until her death. "My Jeanie," as her husband Dick Ebert refers to her, is memorialized with a gift of \$100,000 to ovarian cancer research and a plaque outside the infusion room of the N.C. Cancer Hospital, the clinical home of UNC Lineberger, that reads "In Loving Memory of Jean H. Ebert By her husband Richard G. Ebert."

But Dick Ebert's appreciation for the care and respect shown to his wife by her care team went beyond what would fit on the plaque.

"I was impressed by the total professionalism, the dedication to what they were doing, and the love they showed," Dick Ebert said. "... this was a way to honor Jeanie and remember Jeanie."

Jean Ebert was a Meredith College-trained artist, who loved to paint whimsical scenes and take trips to Europe, charming the locals and visitors alike. Though some of her vibrancy dimmed as her cancer progressed, Dick Ebert said she always made the best of her situation.

"She used to say if she got bad news ... she would take three days. 'I have my pity party, I mope around, then I chew it up, spit it out and get on with my life,'" he said.

Dick Ebert's monetary gift in Jean's honor will fund research led by Gehrig and Victoria Bae-Jump, MD, that focuses on developing laboratory models to further clinical trials for the disease.

The doctors say the patient-derived xenograft ovarian cancer models will allow them "to more comprehensively study the impact of diet on ovarian cancer pathogenesis as well as novel metabolically targeted agents and immunotherapy drugs in the treatment of this highly lethal cancer. Our ultimate goal is to bring forth critically needed clinical trials for ovarian cancer."

"We thank Mr. Ebert who has been so very generous in his gift in memory of Jean," Gehrig said. "It was my pleasure to take care of her and to get to know them over the years. His gift will ensure that her memory helps those women who will follow her, and hopefully one day we can make huge strides to change the outcomes of women with ovarian cancer."

Dick Ebert shares that hope. And helping other women and their families affected by ovarian cancer would be a fitting tribute to Jean's legacy.

He recalls a time when Jean participated in a cancer support group meeting and came home with a smile on her face. "She said this lady came up to me, introduced herself and said 'I just want to thank you.' She said 'I appreciate that, but what for?' And the lady said 'Today, for the first time in eight months, I've laughed or smiled.'"

"She deserves to be remembered," he said.



Left to right: Victoria Bae-Jump, MD, Paola Gehrig, MD, Dick Ebert and H. Shelton Earp, MD, UNC Lineberger director.

FOR

ALL

KIND

• the CAMPAIGN for CAROLINA •



Campaign calls for support for innovation from and by the public

Giving to a cause is a highly personal endeavor, with many factors affecting the decision to give. But most donors are looking for a future where their gifts have made a difference to someone in need and a positive impact on as many lives as possible.

For All Kind: the Campaign for Carolina, is the most ambitious fundraising campaign in the university's history. On Oct. 6, 2017, Carolina publicly launched the second largest fundraiser for a public university in the nation. With a goal of \$4.25 billion by Dec. 31, 2022, the Campaign for Carolina is inspired by the Blueprint for Next, the university's overall strategic plan built on two core strategies: "of the public, for the public," and "innovation made fundamental."

As the state's only public comprehensive cancer center, UNC Lineberger stresses the public element of the campaign – providing today's best care and tomorrow's best hope for the people of North Carolina and the Southeast. At UNC Lineberger, our researchers, physicians, faculty and staff are all working toward a transformative understanding of cancer, from the molecular level to the societal, and aim to translate that knowledge into improved treatments and patient outcomes. It's a promise that, with your help, we will push scientific discovery and create novel therapies.

Therapies like the chimeric antigen receptor T-cell (CAR-T) immunotherapy program are what sets UNC Lineberger apart for patients and donors alike and truly shows how the cancer center can make an impact on cancer today and in the future.

"For me, and for anybody in the Southeast, tomorrow's best hope is in Chapel Hill," said Alice Lehman, UNC Lineberger Board of Visitors and campaign cabinet member.

The CAR-T program has truly embodied the aims of the campaign, as donors have leveraged UNC Lineberger's initial investment to enhance the program and build its life-saving impact. Collaboration is key to its success. Jonathan Serody, MD, associate director of translational



science at UNC Lineberger, believed in the potential of research from husband and wife team Barbara Savoldo, MD, PhD, and Gianpietro Dotti, MD, and successfully recruited the pair to work at the cancer center. Physicians like Thomas Shea, MD, have helped bring the research from bench to bedside by successfully treating patients with CAR-T immunotherapy. As the only cancer center in the Southeast able to harvest T-cells, reintroduce them to the patient and apply a “kill switch” to rid the body of the cells after they’ve eradicated the tumor, UNC Lineberger is uniquely positioned to take cancer treatment to the next level.

“We hope to make major breakthroughs. You can give to some generic cancer fund, but if you really want to make a difference, you find a place that’s really on the cutting edge and truly is tomorrow’s best hope and invest in that,” said Jim Harrell, UNC Lineberger Board of Visitors and campaign cabinet member. “Lineberger gives people hope. Hope not only for what’s happening to them now, but also hope for the future.”

Jan and Steve Capps, UNC Lineberger Board of Visitors and campaign cabinet members, said positive family experiences with cancer treatment at UNC Lineberger first motivated them to participate in the campaign. Recently, they have been inspired by the Adolescent and Young Adult Cancer Support Program and the positive change the Be Loud! Sophie Foundation has created for teen and young adult cancer patients treated at the N.C. Cancer Hospital.

“These kids who have cancer have problems that are different from little children and adults,” Jan Capps said. “They’re worried about fertility; they’re worried about things like that.”

The Cappses are inspired to donate because they envision a world without cancer in both children and adults.

“I ultimately think that is the goal, that no one has to suffer, whether they’re sick or a family member is sick,” Steve Capps said. “When you’ve been affected by cancer as a survivor or as a family member or any other respect, it’s a very personal experience. Sharing your experiences, if it means somebody will help the cause to eliminate that suffering, it’s as natural as breathing.”



Norman E. Sharpless, MD, accompanied by his wife, Julie Sharpless, MD, is sworn in as NCI director by then-acting Secretary of Health and Human Services Eric D. Hargan.

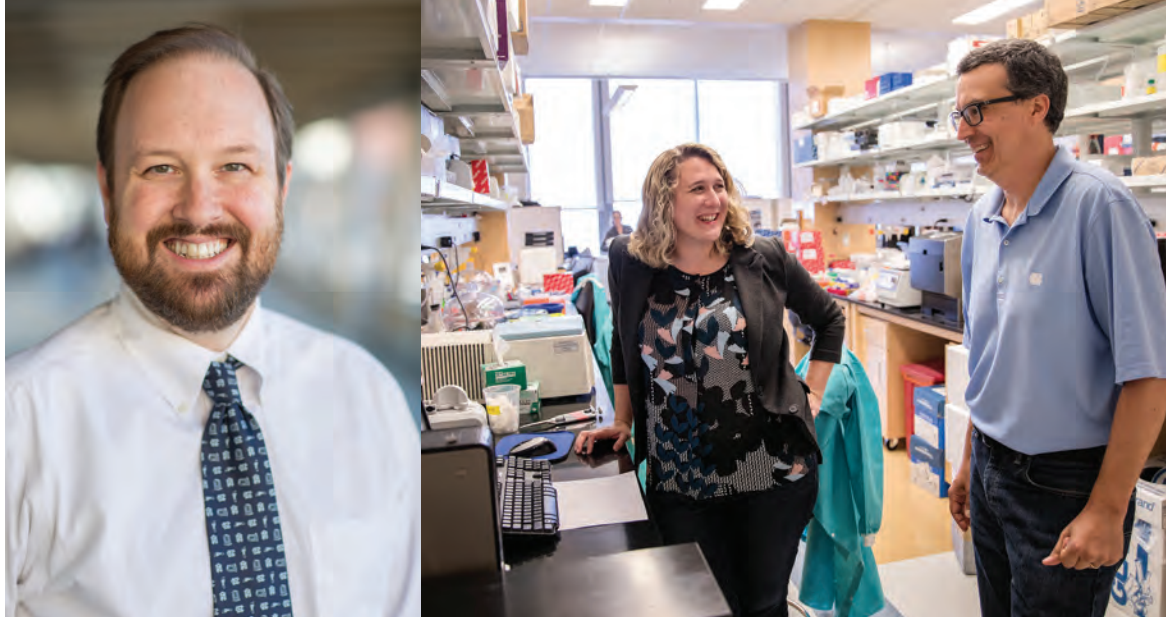
Sharpless sworn in as director of National Cancer Institute

Using one's senior administrator to another institution typically is a reason for concern, but the appointment of Norman E. "Ned" Sharpless, MD, as director of the National Cancer Institute was a proud moment for UNC Lineberger and the state of North Carolina. Sharpless served as director of UNC Lineberger from January 2014 until June 2017, when President Trump announced Sharpless' appointment to lead the nation's top cancer agency. Fortunately, UNC Lineberger didn't need to look far for Sharpless' replacement. H. Shelton Earp, MD, who served as the cancer center's director from 1997-2014 and remained in a senior administrative role, agreed to return as director.

"Dr. Sharpless is an outstanding scientist, clinician and administrator, and we are very fortunate to have him join the NIH leadership team," said National Institutes of Health Director Francis S. Collins, MD, PhD. Both Collins and Sharpless received their medical degrees from Carolina.

Sharpless' appointment was received favorably by the national oncology community, which cited his experience as a physician-scientist. Sharpless is internationally recognized for his research into how normal cells age and undergo malignant conversion. He is also an entrepreneur; he is cofounder of two biomedical companies.

"I cannot think of a better choice to lead the National Cancer Institute," Earp said. "Ned brings a remarkable combination of a probing scientific mind and clinical and administrative leadership. He cares about patients and their families and will serve the nation's top cancer agency with distinction."



Researchers lead studies mapping genetic and molecular changes in cancer

UNC Lineberger researchers led two major projects that marked the finale of The Cancer Genome Atlas project, a major international initiative backed by the National Cancer Institute and National Human Genome Research Institute.

Charles M. Perou, PhD, the May Goldman Shaw Distinguished Professor in Molecular Oncology, a professor of genetics, and the co-leader of UNC Lineberger's efforts in TCGA, Benjamin Vincent, MD, assistant professor in the UNC School of Medicine Division of Hematology/Oncology, and Katherine Hoadley, PhD, assistant professor in the UNC School of Medicine Department of Genetics, played leadership roles in studies that mapped the genetic and molecular changes in cancer and led to the development of multiple new classification systems for cancer.

One of the major culminating efforts of TCGA Network researchers was an analysis of thousands of tumors to classify them according to their immune responses. Using genomic analysis, the researchers evaluated many distinct immune system features of a tumor at once, and were able to identify large groups of tumors that shared common immune cell features that were also shown to predict patient outcomes.

"UNC Lineberger investigators are working to translate these findings into prospective clinical trials and

cutting-edge biomarker development," Vincent said.

Another study, led by Hoadley, analyzed 10,000 tumors across 33 different human cancer types, including breast, lung, colon, ovarian. The researchers identified an expanded classification for cancers based on their genetic and genomic alterations, and reported in the journal *Cell* that many tumors are very similar to each other based on these molecular features that reflect the cell type of origin; in some cases beyond similarities based upon a common anatomic location.

TCGA as a whole has helped create a dictionary of alterations in cancers that other researchers can use, Hoadley said. The data are publicly available, and next to data from the Human Genome Project, the TCGA data likely represent the most widely utilized human genomic resource.

"Having this catalogue of alterations in cancer will help guide future research, it will lead to a better understanding of how these alterations relate to outcomes for patients, which is why we made this data publicly available," Hoadley said.

"Along with the Human Genome Project, this is an example of a significant collaborative group effort driven by the National Cancer Institute," Vincent said. "UNC Lineberger researchers have been involved from the beginning."

Left: Benjamin Vincent, MD; Right: Katherine Hoadley, PhD, and Charles Perou, PhD, played leadership roles in studies that mapped the genetic and molecular changes in cancer and led to the development of multiple new classification systems for cancer.

Art Pope, chairman of The John William Pope Foundation, established The John William Pope "Tomorrow's Best Hope" Endowed Fellowship Fund with a gift to UNC Lineberger.



UNC

LINEBERGER COMPREHENSIVE
CANCER CENTER

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2017-18 UNC Lineberger Major Gifts and New Commitments

Major gifts and commitments, including both pledges and estate gifts, are vital to UNC Lineberger's ability to recruit and retain the very best minds in the cancer field, invest in high potential research, provide innovative patient care and support programs, and ultimately find cures. Our deepest appreciation is extended to the following donors who have made generous commitments this year.

\$5,000,000+

The John William Pope Foundation to establish the John William Pope "Tomorrow's Best Hope" Fellowship Fund to support post-doctoral fellowships for cancer researchers.

\$1,000,000-\$4,999,999

The Wilson Family Foundation to support cancer research and a clinical trial for cellular immunotherapy.

Bequest expectancy from **Dr. David N. and Gladys H. McNelis** to establish the Timothy Robert McNelis Seed Grants for Head and Neck Cancer Research in memory of their son.

The Stella T. Neely Family Trust to support leading-edge cancer research.

\$100,000-\$999,999

Bequest expectancy from **Ralph B. Jr. and Betty F. Barnes** to support pediatric oncology research and care.

Be Loud! Sophie Foundation to support the Adolescent and Young Adult Cancer Support Program within the Comprehensive Cancer Support Program at the N.C. Cancer Hospital.

Dr. W. Lowry and Susan S. Caudill to create the Jacqueline L. Caudill Fund for Sarcoma Research in memory of Dr. Caudill's mother and to honor her physician, Dr. Juneke Grilley-Olson.

Estate of **Helen E. Chaney** to support the Joseph Winpisinger Pancreatic Cancer Endowment Fund.

Thomas N. and Nancy J. Chewning to support promising and novel breast cancer research and other priorities through the Dr. Lisa Carey Fund for Breast Cancer Innovations.

John D. and Sheldon Clark to support priority initiatives where the need is greatest through a matching gift challenge.

Mr. Richard G. Ebert to Drs. Paola Gehrig and Victoria Bae-Jump, given in memory of this wife, Jean, to support ovarian cancer research.

John L. and Patricia R. Hatcher to support the The John L. and Patricia R. Hatcher Fund in Gynecological Oncology.

Estate of **Margery S. Johnson** to support priority initiatives where the need is greatest.

Bequest expectancy from **Robert S. and Claudia B. Kadis** to support lung cancer research.

Kulynych Family Foundation to support the Get REAL & HEEL program.

Thomas H. and Gabrielle M. Layton to support the Microbiome Research Fund.

Kenneth B. and Frances L. Lee to support the Kenneth and Frances Lee Seed Grant for Melanoma Research Fund.

George W. and Lilian S. Loewenbaum to support the research of Dr. Charles Perou.

William B. Millis to add to the James H. and Jesse E. Millis Distinguished Professorship, established to support melanoma research and in honor of his parents. This gift was additionally supported by major gifts from **James H. Jr., and Deborah Millis, Emily M. Hiatt, and Molly M. Young.**

Bequest expectancy from **Anne L. Sessoms** to support melanoma research.

She ROCKS, Inc. to support the ovarian cancer research of Dr. Vickie Bae-Jump given in memory of Beth Quinn.

Bequest expectancy from **Dr. Brian and Laura M. Stabler** to support cellular immunotherapy research and the Comprehensive Cancer Support Program.

Vs. Cancer and the Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation to support pediatric cancer and to provide supportive care services for pediatric patients and families.

\$50,000-\$99,999

Estate of **Lovick P. Corn** to support the pediatric oncology research of Dr. Barbara Savoldo.

Crown Imports to support Corona Cares benefitting patient and family supportive care services at the N.C. Cancer Hospital.

Kenan Family Foundation on behalf of Sterling Holt Kenan, Sterling Kenan McCracken and Owen Gwyn Jr., to support the Owen G. Kenan Pancreatic Cancer Research Fund.

Estate of **Samuel A. McConkey Jr.** to support multiple myeloma research in honor of Dr. Peter Voorhees.

Zeb V. McMillan Jr. to support the Zeb V. McMillan Jr. Medical Endowment Fund for Cancer Research.

Nancy C. Mohr to support the Thomas M. Mohr Fund for Bladder Cancer Research.

Bequest expectancy from **Josephine W. Patton** to support breast cancer research.

Dr. James R. and Judy A. Pick to support the Dr. James R. Pick and Judy A. Pick Comparative Medicine Research Seed Grant and the Dr. James R. Pick and Judy Allen Pick Cancer Research Seed Grant.

John D. and Tammy W. Woerner to support the Betty and Otto Woerner Endowment Fund for Patient and Family Support.

\$25,000-\$49,999

An anonymous gift to support priority initiatives where the need is greatest.

AlphaMed Cancer Foundation on behalf of Dr. and Mrs. Martin J. Murphy Jr. to support Martin and Ann Murphy Cancer Research Fund in honor of Dr. H. Shelton Earp III.

Mr. Russell M. Carter and Atlantic Corporation of Wilmington, Inc. to sponsor the 13th Annual Fast Break Against Cancer in honor of Coach Roy Williams and to support breast cancer research.

Stephen A. and Jan R. Capps to support the Stephen Allen Capps and Jan Rowe Capps Fund for Cancer Patient and Family Support and the Adolescent and Young Adult Cancer Support Program within the Comprehensive Cancer Support Program at the N.C. Cancer Hospital.

Susan H. Hogue to support priority initiatives where the need is the greatest.

No to O to support gynecological oncology research in memory of Jean Ebert.

The Oak Foundation to support continuing education opportunities for pediatric psychosocial providers.

Dean E. Jr., and Lisa Painter to support the Melanoma Research Fund.

Sampson-Bladen Oil Company, Inc. to support Corona Cares benefitting patient and family supportive care services at the N.C. Cancer Hospital.

Dr. Michael A. Stegman to support the Nancy W. Stegman Fund for New Ideas in Cancer Research.

HONOR ROLL LIST OF DONORS

Your contribution makes a difference, and we are grateful for every donor who gave to UNC Lineberger in the past year. Private support enables us to significantly increase the pace of discovery and pioneer new approaches to care, bringing us closer to our ultimate goal of making all types of cancer curable. Your generous contributions are making a difference every day in laboratories, clinics, hospital rooms and communities throughout our state. Thank you for sharing our commitment to fighting cancer.

The lists in this honor roll include the names of those Lineberger Leadership Partners who have led with gifts and payments of \$1,000 or more to UNC Lineberger in the past fiscal year.

We have noted in bold those generous supporters who contributed as Lineberger Leadership Partners for at least 10 years. We are especially grateful for their loyalty to UNC Lineberger and dedication to helping end cancer.

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 In celebration of the wedding of John Isner
 and Madison McKinley
 In celebration of Eileen Jefferson’s 90th
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Walter Reece Berryhill, MD

THE BERRYHILL SOCIETY

In 2003, the Medical Foundation of North Carolina, Inc. created the Berryhill Society to recognize those individuals who have provided for the School of Medicine through a planned gift from their estates. This recognition society is named for the late W. Reece Berryhill, longtime dean and leader at the School of Medicine.

At UNC Lineberger, planned gifts can leave a legacy in your name or honor someone important to you. We honor and recognize the following supporters who have generously included UNC Lineberger in their estate plans. We extend a special welcome to our newest members, whose names are italicized.

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(Left to right) Cancer survivors Rachel Godsmark, Jackson Donahoe, Pixie Stocking and Rengate Alston.



LINEBERGER COMPREHENSIVE
CANCER CENTER

OUR COMMUNITY.





Roy Williams' Fast Break Against Cancer has raised more than \$2.5 million for cancer research.





A full-court press against cancer

University of North Carolina men's basketball coach Roy Williams knows what it takes to go up against the toughest opponents on the basketball court and come out on top. For more than a decade, he has been using that same determination to help those who are fighting a different foe – cancer.

Since 2004, he has hosted The Roy Williams' Fast Break Against Cancer, a breakfast and auction held on the court of the Dean E. Smith Center to support cancer research and care at UNC Lineberger.

"This event is something that I've grown to really love," Williams said. "I think the biggest thing is the money that you raise, the money that you give, the money that you spend in the auction goes directly to our Lineberger Center, here in Chapel Hill."

The breakfast, including an auction that features one-of-a-kind items, has raised more than \$2.5 million to advance UNC Lineberger's mission.

"Everyone's lives, including my own, have been touched by cancer in some way through a family member, friend or colleague," Williams said. "Researchers have made great strides, but until we wipe this disease from the face of the earth, there is more to do. Our Fast Break breakfast is one of thousands of events that can make a difference and is a way we can all fight cancer together."

North Carolina Senior Resident Superior Court Judge Carl Fox, who was treated for myelodysplastic syndrome at N.C. Cancer Hospital, delivered the keynote address at last year's event.

"... be a friend to someone who has cancer," Fox said. "Pray for someone who has cancer, or think about someone who has cancer. I really believe that was one of the differences in my being here today. If my life was spared, I was going to come out to folks like you and give to causes that save people's lives."



UNC Lineberger supporters make best care and best hope possible

Every year, UNC Lineberger hosts a range of events that bring together cancer center supporters. One of the annual highlights is the Lineberger Club Brunch and Basketball Game, which recognizes the members of the Lineberger Leadership Partners Program, a distinction held by those who give \$1,000 or more annually to support the cancer center's mission. The event features inspiring talks from patients and physician-scientists and concludes with a UNC men's basketball game at the Dean E. Smith Center.

This past year, John and Shelley Clark, who are members of the UNC Lineberger Board of Visitors and the Lineberger Leadership Partners Program, demonstrated their support of UNC Lineberger with a gift that encouraged others to provide annual gifts to the cancer center. The Clarks agreed to match up to \$100,000 as part of the campaign, which enabled UNC Lineberger to raise more than \$200,000. Annual gifts provide discretionary support for cancer center leadership to take advantage of emerging opportunities in the fast-changing world of cancer research.



Shelley and John Clark

John Clark said he'd never done a matching gift campaign before, but was impressed by how successful it was. "(The matching campaign) does have an impact," he said. "I've given in response to matching challenges, and it has always inspired or had an impact on me making a gift."

The Clarks were inspired to give to UNC Lineberger because they know nearly every family in the state has been impacted by cancer, and as the state's only public comprehensive cancer center, it continues to serve every North Carolinian. John Clark said he and Shelley will continue to give to UNC Lineberger because they're confident the cancer center is positioned to make even greater advances in cancer research and care that benefits patients locally and nationally.

FUNDRAISING EVENTS

UNC Lineberger partners across the state organize efforts and events throughout the year to support research and care.



Eat, drink and fight cancer

Every Tuesday, Glasshalfull in Carrboro donates 10 percent of its sales to UNC Lineberger. Drop in for a glass of wine or dinner for a great cause! Both the food and wine selection are influenced by the cuisine of the Mediterranean, and the menu features ingredients from local vendors. Glasshalfull's menu changes regularly depending on what is in season, and the dishes are meant to be enjoyed with wine or spirits.



Local pairing reaps rewards

Chapel Hill Toffee and Carolina Brewery collaborated on a new Chapel Hill Toffee Stout. A portion of the proceeds went to UNC Lineberger. The pairing proved so successful that the two companies have already made plans to continue to produce this one-of-a-kind stout.



Funds go to benefit ovarian cancer research

She ROCKS, a local nonprofit dedicated to raising money to fund research for ovarian cancer, held its fourth annual event October 11, 2017, at the Wilmington Convention Center in Wilmington, North Carolina. She ROCKS (Research Ovarian Cancer Knowledge Support) exists to bring awareness and attention to ovarian cancer through funding groundbreaking research, and by helping women who are undergoing treatment for cancer. The nonprofit has given more than \$300,000 to UNC Lineberger to fund ovarian cancer research. Additionally, She ROCKS funds various support initiatives for patients undergoing chemotherapy, including monthly gas cards, wig purchases, and Tervis Tumblers to remind patients to stay hydrated through treatment.

Left: The late She ROCKS founder Beth Quinn with Olympic gymnast Shannon Miller at the organization's fourth annual event at the Wilmington Convention Center in Wilmington. Quinn passed away Jan. 17, 2018.



Good food and friends raise money for cancer

A charity fundraising effort did more than just raise money; it raised community support. Coordinated by agents of the Chapel Hill and Pittsboro offices of Coldwell Banker Howard Perry and Walston in conjunction with the HPW Foundation, Pig Out for the Cure was held October 13, 2017. Local businesses and individuals sponsor and support the cause to raise funds for UNC Lineberger. The day is a celebration of sponsors and fundraisers, along with the sale of barbecue plates from Gillis's BBQ.



A good time for a great cause

Teer Farms held its annual Farm Party on Nov. 4, 2017, the fifth consecutive year for the event. Each year, attendees are invited to Teer Farms, where they can enjoy North Carolina barbecue, libations and live bluegrass music. Event and silent auction proceeds go to benefit UNC Lineberger.



Athletes aligned to fight cancer

The UNC Women's Rowing team hosted its seventh annual Erg-A-Thon on Oct. 11, 2017, supporting breast cancer research and UNC Lineberger. Participants at the event row on "ergs," a special type of rowing machine. "I think this event really embodies our team's commitment to serving the community," said Caeli Harr, a senior on the rowing team and the lead organizer of the event. Carolina Athletics showed its support for the Erg-a-Thon by sporting pink at their practices and workout.



A caring community

Guy Civitello, coach of the Apex Friendship High School baseball team, and the team's graduating seniors presented UNC Lineberger's Elizabeth Rubio with a \$4,300 check to support patient care and research programs. The team raised the money through ticket sales from the Strike Out Cancer doubleheader with Panther Creek, Holly Springs and Leesville Road high schools, corporate sponsorships, and proceeds from a silent auction and a food truck rodeo. This is the first year Apex Friendship held this event, and it is the sixth year a team led by Coach Civitello has raised money for UNC Lineberger.



A chance to save lives

An elegant and fun evening in Chapel Hill featured "Vegas-style" games of chance, such as blackjack, roulette, craps and Texas Hold 'em, all manned by professional dealers, with amazing prizes on the line. Funds raised at this event went to support the Save the Fox Foundation, whose mission is to raise awareness and support for bone marrow registration and donation.

Left: Superior Court Judge Carl Fox and wife, Julia.



Cyclists team up against cancer

Team UNC Lineberger took to the road May 19, 2018, for the V Foundation's inaugural Victory Ride to Cure Cancer, benefiting UNC Lineberger, Duke Cancer Institute and the Comprehensive Cancer Center at Wake Forest Baptist Health. The special one-day charity cycling event found riders hitting the road on NC State University's Centennial Campus, near downtown Raleigh.

Left : UNC Lineberger's H. Shelton Earp, MD, center, joined Duke's Michael Kastan, MD, PhD, and Wake Forest's Boris Pasche, MD, PhD, at a kickoff event in Raleigh to announce the Victory Ride to Cure Cancer.

BLUE RIBBON PARTNERS

We thank the following Blue Ribbon Partners – who host events benefitting the cancer center, raising at least \$20,000 during a three-year period.

Blue Ribbon Run
 Bobby F. Garrett Benefit Concert
 Corona Cares
 John R. Isner
 Pedal for Peds
 River Landing Golf Association for Ladies "Swing for the Cure"
 She ROCKS!
 Sports Endeavors
 The Farm Party
 Vs. Cancer Foundation/Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation
 Glasshalfull*
 HPW Pig Out for the Cure*
 UNC Women's Rowing Team Ergathon*

We would also like to thank the following volunteers and organizations who hosted an event last year that raised at least \$20,000.

Lucky for Lineberger
 Save the Fox Foundation
 Victory Ride

**indicates new member*

Small amounts net big payoffs

August is a great time to beat the heat and support UNC Lineberger. Throughout the month of August, Constellation Brands and all Corona wholesalers across the state committed 25 cents of every case of Corona Extra and Corona Light sold and 100 percent of the donations from paper lime purchases to the N.C. Cancer Hospital, as part of the Corona Cares effort. The Corona Cares program began in 2005 by Constellation Brands and local wholesalers to benefit sick children and their families at Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago. It has since spread to additional markets and benefits other charities. At the N.C. Cancer Hospital, funds will support programs that benefit patients and families receiving cancer treatment.

Event brings luck, funds to fight cancer

Taking a chance paid off big dividends for UNC Lineberger at one March event. Lucky for Lineberger is a St. Patrick's Day-themed, invite-only event to help raise money for ovarian cancer. Four cancer survivors hosted and coordinated the event, which featured games of chance and donations at the door. Proceeds went to benefit UNC Lineberger's Comprehensive Cancer Support Programs.

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UNC Lineberger patient
Gilbert Casterlow Jr., PhD,
with his grandson, Bryson
Mittman. Mittman donated
his birthday money to the
cancer center to help people
like his grandfather.