



## **LUNGEvity Foundation Bios**

### **LUNGEvity Foundation Board of Directors**

#### **Alexander F. Stern – Chairman**

Alex Stern leads IBM's strategy and mergers & acquisitions organizations and also leads the company's investor relations organization.

He joined IBM in 2023 from Lazard, where he served as President since June 2019. Prior to that, Alex held a number of senior executive positions at the firm, including Chief Executive Officer of Lazard's Financial Advisory business, Chief Operating Officer, and Global Head of Strategy.

Alex spearheaded many of the firm's key strategic and operational initiatives, including expanding Lazard's service offerings, enhancing collaboration and productivity across the firm's workforce, and strengthening relationships with investment banking clients. He also helped lead the successful integration of Lazard as it transitioned from a private partnership to a public company. Throughout his tenure, Alex advised Lazard clients on a broad array of transformational growth transactions and value creation initiatives, with a particular emphasis in the technology and telecommunications sectors. He joined Lazard in 1994, and was named Managing Director in 2002.

Alex previously held positions with Patricof & Co. Ventures and IBM. He is the Executive Chairman and a board member of Lazard Growth Acquisition Corp. I, a special purpose acquisition company. He is Chairman of the LUNGEvity Foundation, a nonprofit organization focused on changing outcomes for people with lung cancer through research, education, and support, and is also a board member of the nonprofit Operation Warm.

He received a BS from Duke University, an MSE from the School of Engineering and Applied Science of the University of Pennsylvania, and an MBA from The Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania.

#### **Tom Galli – Treasurer**

Tom Galli is a 14-year lung cancer survivor and a long-term LUNGEvity LifeLine mentor. His career in the United States Army and the corporate world spans 45 years and includes a diverse background in civil engineering; tank-automotive system design, development and manufacturing; contracting; program management; and productivity and business process re-engineering consulting.

Commissioned in the Army Corps of Engineers in 1972 after graduation from University of Dayton, Galli's military career began with troops in a Combat Engineer Battalion, included managing and directing the Army's Abrams Tank production contracts and plants and leading initial production manufacturing of the M-9 Armored Combat Earthmover.

After Army retirement, Galli founded Ethell-Galli Consulting International, a civil works and management services consulting firm. He joined Raytheon-E Systems in 1997 where, as Director of Advanced Concepts, he focused on marrying emerging technology with customer needs, gaining a promotion to Six Sigma Director and Champion in 2000.

Galli founded Ingenium Cubed, LLC, a patent holding company. He holds three patents, is a published author, earned an MBA, and is a graduate of the Defense Systems Management College, the Defense Contract Audit Agency Institute, and the Armed Forces Staff College.

#### **Nichelle Stigger – Secretary**

Nichelle Stigger is a lung cancer survivor-advocate whose cancer journey began in 2016 when she was diagnosed with a rare form of lung cancer, mucinous adenocarcinoma, found in only 1% of cancer patients.

After two surgeries, including the removal of her left lobe and lymph nodes, she has been cancer-free since 2017. Nichelle has made it her fight to educate, facilitate, engage, and organize those in powerful positions to bring about change in the pursuit of equity for all.

Nichelle is an educator in Oak Park, IL, and, in addition to her passion for equality in cancer care, is an advocate for equality in education. She believes that knowledge can be a place of enlightenment, and she teaches her kids to practice leading with love in all interactions. Nichelle lives in Oak Park, IL, with her young son Parker and husband Aaron.

#### **Lynne Doughtie – Member**

Lynne Doughtie is former U.S. Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of KPMG — one of the world's leading professional services firms. She also was a member of KPMG's Global Board and Executive Committee.

Doughtie previously served as Vice Chair of KPMG's Advisory business (2011-2015), establishing it as the firm's fastest-growing business. In addition, she oversaw the expansion of KPMG's capabilities in innovative services and solutions, including information security, strategy, digital/mobile, and transformation.

Doughtie began her career in 1985 in KPMG's Audit practice, and served in a number of national, regional and global leadership roles, including as lead partner for a number of the firm's major clients.

### **Andrea E. Ferris – Member**

Andrea is President and CEO of LUNGevery and a member of the Board of Directors. In her role as President and CEO of LUNGevery, Andrea is responsible for setting and executing the strategic direction of the organization and its science programs.

Andrea came to LUNGevery through the merger with Protect Your Lungs, an organization she and her family started to fund lung cancer research following her mother's death from lung cancer in 2008.

Before the merger, Andrea founded and built Protect Your Lungs, an organization dedicated to funding research into the early detection of lung cancer. Andrea was instrumental in building PYL's Scientific Advisory Board and establishing its funding process, both of which followed her to the new LUNGevery organization.

In her for-profit career, Andrea has a wealth of management experience. Andrea was the Vice President of Strategy and Growth of Decision Lens, Inc. a company she helped launch in January 2005. Prior to joining Decision Lens, Andrea held a variety of management positions at Johnson & Johnson, including Director of Investor Relations, Manager Corporate Mergers & Acquisitions, and Plant Controller. She also spent several years at McNeil Consumer Products, a J&J subsidiary, in marketing and mergers & acquisitions. Prior to her time at J&J, Andrea worked for Lehman Brothers and Coopers & Lybrand in New York City in both Mergers and Acquisitions and as a CPA.

Andrea received her BS in Economics from Wharton with concentrations in Accounting, Decision Sciences, and Finance. She received her MBA from Wharton with concentrations in Finance and Latin American Studies. She served on Washington, DC's Kennedy Center National Committee of Performing Arts and on the Board of ARCS (Achievement Rewards for College Scientists) of Metro DC. She has also served on the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors for DC Metro Boys and Girls Club and has worked with the Ronald McDonald House and the Philadelphia Museum of Art.

### **William "BJ" Jones – Member**

BJ Jones is the Chief Commercial Officer, Migraine and Common Disease, at Biohaven Pharmaceuticals, where he is responsible for creating a vertically integrated commercial team from concept to deployment in ten months.

With over 25 years of commercial experience in the healthcare industry, BJ has held leadership roles of increasing responsibility at Takeda Pharmaceuticals, AstraZeneca, Bristol-Myers Squibb, Boehringer Ingelheim, and NitroMed. He has significant experience in mass market product launches and has successfully built and lead diverse commercial teams committed to addressing unmet patient needs across various therapeutic areas, including neuroscience, cardio-metabolic, respiratory, GI, and infectious disease.

Prior to joining the pharmaceutical industry, BJ served in the U.S. Air Force and earned the rank of Major. He provided threat assessments to NATO leadership as an Engineering Analyst in the Foreign

Technology division and led cutting-edge research in the Artificial Intelligence in Training program as a Function Chief in the AF Human Systems Division.

He holds a BS in Human Factors Engineering from the U.S. Air Force Academy, an MS in Industrial Engineering from Texas A&M University, and an MBA from Stanford Graduate School of Business.

#### **Jennifer Kashatus – Member**

Jennifer Kashatus is a partner in the Washington, DC, office of DLA Piper LLP. Jennifer routinely advises companies in all industry sectors on privacy and cybersecurity issues.

In particular, Jennifer assists companies in developing comprehensive global and domestic privacy and data security programs, guiding companies in navigating the myriad state, federal, and international privacy regulations. Jennifer also devotes a significant portion of her practice to incident response and preparation, having advised numerous companies on the implementation of an incident response program and coaching companies through evaluating and responding to a threatened or actual security incident. Further, Jennifer routinely advises clients on privacy and data security matters in the context of corporate transactions, working with clients to identify potential risks in an acquisition, whether buy or sell side.

#### **Michael Kolodziej, MD – Member**

Michael Kolodziej, MD, serves as Senior Adviser for ADVI Health. He joined ADVI in October 2017. He is a Fellow of the American College of Physicians. He has published and spoken extensively on payment reform, personalized medicine, and practice care delivery transformation in oncology.

Dr. Kolodziej attended college and medical school at Washington University in St. Louis, where he was Phi Beta Kappa and Alpha Omega Alpha. He completed internal medicine and hematology-oncology training at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia. After completing training, Dr. Kolodziej joined the faculty at the University of Oklahoma School of Medicine where he was an associate professor. He joined New York Oncology in the winter of 1998, and was a partner in the practice until December 2012.

He was an active member of the US Oncology Pharmacy and Therapeutics committee, on the executive committee from 2002-2011, and chairman from 2004-2011.

He served as Medical Director for Oncology Services for US Oncology from 2007-2011. In this role, he helped direct the implementation of the USON clinical pathways initiative, the integration of the USON EMR into this program, and the development of the USON disease management and advanced care planning programs, now known as Innovent Oncology.

He joined Aetna in January 2013 as National Medical Director, Oncology Solutions. While at Aetna, he directed Aetna's oncology delivery reform pilots and was the architect of the Aetna Oncology Medical Home program. He was also active in Aetna's pharmacy policy, condition analysis, and genetics subcommittees.

Dr. Kolodziej joined Flatiron Health in July 2016 as National Medical Director, Managed Care Strategy, where he applied the core tech and data capabilities of Flatiron to facilitate practice transformation and success in alternative payment models.

### **Michael Marquis – Member**

Michael is a global business executive and consumer goods strategist with 25+ years of experience building high-performance teams and billion-dollar multinational brands in the worldwide retail marketplace.

In executive operating roles across the personal care and health & wellness sectors, he has turned emerging businesses into top 5 brands, including Clean & Clear®, Listerine® and the OGX® hair care brand. Michael specializes in leading early-stage growth brands to highly profitable global market leadership by nurturing start-up cultures while scaling capabilities. His expertise: retail acceleration strategy, human performance, and consumer brand building through a mastery of the P&L.

Michael is the CEO of Raw Sugar, a national lifestyle brand that makes clean, premium, and healthy living products affordably. His key responsibilities include driving rapid growth by increasing brand love, expanding categories and geographical regions, and defining the next generation of an omni-channel, global consumer business.

Previously, Michael was the Global President of Vogue International where he drove the OGX® and Maui Moisture® Brands to YoY market share growth, global expansion, and operating margin improvement while scaling the business into iconic brands. He formerly held several executive roles at Johnson & Johnson, with the latest as President where he managed a \$1.3B portfolio of brands.

A career highlight is securing the successful delivery of the \$3.3B Vogue International acquisition by Johnson & Johnson, resulting in \$1B+ increase in shareholder value and the retention of all top talent for the first 5 years of integration. Additional career milestones are managing the turnaround of the \$1.3B portfolio of businesses. Michael is especially proud of his DE&I leadership, including leading the LGBTQIA+ “Care with Pride” retail initiative to double in funding and securing equity investment for Black-owned beauty start-ups as outcomes of ongoing ally work with underserved communities.

A visionary leader with an eye always on the next frontier, Michael has the work ethic of an athlete and the heart of a coach.

Michael holds a BSBA in Accounting and is a 3-time US Rowing All-American. He is an Executive Board member of the LUNGEvity Foundation, a non-profit organization supporting lung cancer research. Born on the naval base in South Philly, he enjoys rowing in the morning and cycling with the guys. Lately, though, as a #GirlDad of two lovely daughters, he finds himself reveling alongside them in Broadway Shows and boy band concerts.

### **Andre Owens – Member**

Andre’s legal practice, WilmerHale, focuses on securities trading and markets activities. He counsels broker-dealers, securities exchanges, investment advisers, and other clients on a variety of regulatory

issues. Andre also provides advice with respect to acquisitions of securities broker-dealers and investment advisers.

In the past, Andre served as a member of the Counseling and Regulatory Policy Group of the US Securities and Exchange Commission's Office of General Counsel, where he provided advice and recommendations on various proposals presented for Commission action. He has also advised on policy issues as Counsel to SEC Commissioner Steven M. H. Wallman.

Andre graduated from Providence College with a bachelor's degree and holds a JD degree from Harvard Law School.

#### **Michael Parisi – Member**

Michael has over 25 years of diverse healthcare industry experience with an intense focus on biotechnology and oncology. Currently, he is Global President, Communications at Humanity, a diversified healthcare communications and market development agency.

He spent 17 years within the Ogilvy Healthcare organization, where he worked across all aspects of the oncology marketplace, creating long-standing partnerships with many biopharma companies and academic centers on the cutting edge of cancer research. He is a critical thinker, problem solver, and someone who thrives in new emerging approaches to solving the world's biggest healthcare challenges.

Named to the PharmaVOICE 100 Most Inspiring Healthcare Leaders in 2016 for his leadership and innovation in cancer and rare diseases, Michael is a recognized leader and cancer advocate. He currently serves as the President of the Board of Trustees of CancerCare, a partner of LUNgevity. Additionally, since 2012 he has served on the board of the NCCN Foundation, an organization that represents 28 of the world's leading cancer centers.

Michael holds a BA degree in psychology, which is where he became a hospice counselor, focused specifically on dealing with people suffering the end stage of a cancer diagnosis. He also holds an MBA in corporate finance.

#### **Charles Rudin, MD, PHD – Member**

*"Every week I see patients with this disease. Every week patients suffer relapses. I have watched too many lung cancer patients die. I am trying to change the outcome for patients with this disease."* — Charles M. Rudin, MD, PhD, Chair of the Scientific Advisory Board

In the war against lung cancer, Dr. Rudin is staging a strategic multi-pronged attack on the disease. A world-renowned researcher, Dr. Rudin conducts basic science research, develops cutting edge translational therapeutics, and treats lung cancer patients.

As Chief of the Thoracic Oncology Service at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, Dr. Rudin utilizes his exceptional skills to effectively blend basic science and translational research. By using fresh tumor samples from the patient clinic across the street from his laboratory, Dr. Rudin's team studies lung

cancer and develops novel therapeutics in the lab. These techniques are then taken back to the clinic to be tested in patients who are participating in early stage clinical trials. It is a powerful cycle.

Already his laboratory has run numerous clinical trials looking at novel therapeutics in lung cancer patients. One of his exciting findings is a virus that targets small cell lung cancer. This groundbreaking work has prompted a national clinical trial to consider the possibility of using this virus to help specifically target and kill lung cancer cells. The blood and tumor samples from this trial are returning to Dr. Rudin's laboratory so that his team can study the effects of the virus on lung cancer and conduct correlative analyses.

In this way, Dr. Rudin's lab is creating real-time, parallel developments in the laboratory and the clinic that may be the foundation for major breakthroughs in lung cancer care.

While Dr. Rudin is working to develop therapeutics in the laboratory, he also treats patients on a regular basis. Dr. Rudin, a member of LUNGeVity's Scientific Advisory Board, knows that by the time lung cancer is detected, it's usually too late. "To really have an impact, early detection is going to be essential," says Dr. Rudin. "A recent national lung cancer screening trial showed that early detection is possible and it can have an impact on mortality rates, but it's not enough...We need better, cheaper early detection techniques that can be used to screen all people."

The development of detection techniques and therapeutics costs money. Sadly, there is a huge disparity between lung cancer research funding and research funding for other cancers, such as breast and prostate cancer, says Dr. Rudin. But that is where organizations like LUNGeVity make a large impact. "Funding from LUNGeVity really complements the federal funding system and helps to improve outcomes for lung cancer patients."

Dr. Rudin's complex, multi-pronged attack on lung cancer is based on a very simple idea – saving lives. "Every week I see patients with this disease. Every week patients suffer relapses. I have watched too many lung cancer patients die. I am trying to change the outcome for patients with this disease."

[Please find more information on Dr. Rudin here.](#)

### **Andrew Stern – Member**

Andrew Stern has spent his entire career focused on early stage company development, financing and operations.

At present, Andy is Co-Chief Executive Officer at Aurify Brands, a New York-based business catalyst focused on building and operating a portfolio of companies in a variety of industries, including finance, technology and multi-unit franchise concepts.

Prior to joining FPP, Andy founded AMT Partners, an investment group focused on personal private equity investments. Previously, Andy was a Managing Director and Entrepreneur-In-Residence of idealab!, where he managed portfolio company development, which included idea vetting, strategic planning and technical development. Andy joined idealab! upon the company's acquisition of VenCatalyst, Inc., a company he founded and the East Coast's first for-profit idea accelerator. Prior to starting VenCatalyst, Andy founded Logex International LLC, one of the first electronic commerce

solutions providers. Logex was acquired by AppNet, Inc. (now CommerceOne), an e-commerce outsourcing conglomerate. After the acquisition, Andy joined AppNet's senior management team as VP of Marketing, where he successfully guided the company through its initial public offering.

Andy serves on the board of Blue Point Ventures, LLC, FGNY, LLC and as Chairman of The Greenhouse, LLC.

Andy received his BA in Political Science from Vanderbilt University. He resides in Connecticut with his wife and three children.

#### **Paul G. Stern – Member**

Paul founded Protect Your Lungs after his wife of 43 years, Pat, died of lung cancer.

Paul is determined to find an early detection strategy to find all lung cancers while they are still local and treatable to prevent lung-cancer related death. Paul is proud to now serve on LUNgevity's Board of Directors.

Paul has been a leader in the business and non-profit community for more than four decades. He is the former Presiding Director of Dow Chemical Company and a former Director of Whirlpool Corporation.

Paul's not-for-profit activities include: Chairman, Washington National Symphony Orchestra; Board of Directors, Business Executives for National Security; Member of the Council on Foreign Relations; and member of the Potomac Officers Club; and Board member of the SEI Institute at the Wharton School of Business.

Paul lives in Potomac, MD, near three of his eight grandchildren.

#### **Robert Winn, MD – Member**

Robert Winn, MD, is director of VCU Massey Cancer Center. In this position, he oversees a cancer center designated by the National Cancer Institute that provides outstanding cancer care, conducts groundbreaking research to discover new treatments for cancer and offers high-quality education, training and community outreach programs.

In addition to directing the activities of Massey's 205 research members – researchers and physicians from 38 departments in 3 colleges and 4 schools at VCU – he also manages a research laboratory at VCU. His current basic science research, which has been supported by multiple National Institutes of Health and Veterans Affairs Merit awards, focuses on the translational aspects of the role that proliferation pathways and cellular senescence play in lung cancer. He has authored or co-authored more than 60 published manuscripts in peer-reviewed academic journals.

Winn is committed to community-engaged research centered on eliminating health disparities. He is a principal investigator on several community-based projects funded by the NIH and National Cancer Institute, including the All of Us Research Program, a NIH precision medicine initiative. He has received national and international acclaim for his efforts to empower underserved patient populations, improve health care delivery and ensure equal access to cancer care.



Also a pulmonologist, Winn actively treats veterans each week at the nearby Hunter Holmes McGuire VA Medical Center.

Winn's previous faculty appointments include serving as director of the University of Illinois Cancer Center from 2015 to 2019 and as associate vice chancellor of health affairs for community-based practice at the University of Illinois Hospital and Health Science System from 2013 to 2019. Prior to joining UIC, he spent 13 years at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center and School of Medicine in a variety of leadership roles and clinical faculty appointments, including associate dean of admissions, vice chair of career development/diversity inclusion and senior medical director of the pulmonary nodule clinic.

The recipient of numerous awards and honors, Winn was awarded the National Cancer Institute Center to Reduce Cancer Health Disparities CURE Program Lifetime Achievement Award. He is a member of the National Cancer Policy Forum of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine and of several other professional societies.

Winn holds a BA from the University of Notre Dame and an MD from the University of Michigan Medical School in Ann Arbor. He completed an internship and residency in internal medicine at Rush-Presbyterian-St. Luke's Medical Center in Chicago and a fellowship in pulmonary and critical care medicine at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center in Denver.

### **LUNGeVity Foundation Scientific Advisory Board**

#### **Charles Rudin, MD, PhD – Chairman of LUNGeVity's Scientific Advisory Board**

##### ***Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center***

*Professor and Chief, Thoracic Oncology Service*

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#### **Julie R. Brahmer, MD –**

##### ***The Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center at Johns Hopkins***

*Professor of Oncology*

*Co-Director, Upper Aerodigestive (UAD) Program*

*Director, Thoracic Oncology Program*

*Director, Johns Hopkins Kimmel Cancer Center at Bayview*

Julie R. Brahmer, MD, is a global thought leader in the emerging field of immunotherapy. Dr. Brahmer is Professor of Oncology at The Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center at Johns Hopkins.

Dr. Brahmer's research and clinical practice focuses on the development of new therapies, including immunotherapies, for the treatment and prevention of lung cancer and mesothelioma. She was involved in the phase 1 trial of the PD-1 blocking antibody, nivolumab. Dr. Brahmer is a member of the American Society of Clinical Oncology and the Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group (ECOG) Thoracic Committee and Cancer Prevention Steering Committee.

**Lauren Averett Byers, MD –**

***The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center***

*Associate Professor, Department of Thoracic/Head and Neck Medical Oncology, Division of Cancer Medicine*

Dr. Byers is an associate professor of Thoracic/Head and Neck Medical Oncology at The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center.

She has a bachelor's in molecular biology from Princeton University and a master's in cancer biology, with a specialization in patient-based research, from The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center UTHealth Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences. She also serves on the faculty of MD Anderson UTHealth Graduate School.

Dr. Byers earned her medical degree from Baylor College of Medicine. Following her internal medicine residency at Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, she returned to her home state of Texas for oncology fellowship training at MD Anderson. In 2010, Dr. Byers joined the faculty at MD Anderson. Using proteomic, gene expression, and genomic profiling assays, she has identified several promising molecular targets for treating lung cancer. These include the identification of poly ADP-ribose polymerase 1 (PARP1) and other genes involved in repairing DNA damage as novel therapeutic targets for small cell lung cancer (SCLC).

A world-class clinical and translational investigator, she currently leads several clinical trials testing PARP inhibitors and novel immunotherapy approaches for patients with recurrent SCLC.

Dr. Byers is the recipient of numerous awards and accolades and was a member of the inaugural group of LUNgevity Career Development awardees. Most recently, she was the recipient of an Andrew Sabin Family Fellowship to support her work in using novel CAR-T therapy for SCLC and the recipient of the President's Recognition for Research Excellence from MD Anderson. She is also an active member of the NCI's Thoracic Malignancy Steering Committee and the NCI's Progress in Small Cell Lung Cancer Working Group.

Dr. Byers is grateful for the critical support she received from LUNgevity early in her career, which helped her to establish her laboratory research program and has led to numerous discoveries being translated from the lab into clinical trials.

**David P. Carbone, MD, PHD –**

***The Ohio State University***

***Wexner Medical Center***

***Comprehensive Cancer Center***

*Professor, Division of Medical Oncology*

*Barbara J. Bonner Chair in Lung Cancer Research*

*Director of the James Thoracic Oncology Center*

*Past President, International Association for the Study of Lung Cancer (IASLC)*

As a young researcher just completing his MD and PhD at Johns Hopkins University in 1988, Dr. David Carbone was looking for ways to apply the latest tools in molecular biology. He wanted to make an impact. After attending a talk about cancer mutations, Dr. Carbone realized that lung cancer was inadequately treated and lung cancer patients could really benefit from genetic and molecular therapeutics. Since then, Dr. Carbone has been striving to improve lung cancer detection and treatment.

The results of his work have been far-reaching. From discovering factors that cause cancer-associated immunosuppression to developing serum protein biomarker tests, Dr. Carbone has made a tremendous impact on lung cancer. Armed with intense scientific curiosity and dogged determination, Dr. Carbone has published more than 150 peer-reviewed publications and review articles. He is often invited to serve on NCI grant review panels and his laboratory has earned continuous NCI funding since early in his career.

Dr. Carbone continues to be one of the world's leading authorities on translational lung cancer research.

While Dr. Carbone is proud of his highly acclaimed research, he is equally proud of his relationship to his patients. "Over the years, there are many patients that I remember well. Patients that I could really help and those that taught me something about lung cancer," says Dr. Carbone.

He even credits some of his biggest research findings, including his novel discovery that EGFR mutations can affect a lung cancer patient's response to therapy, to his close patient connections. "This guy came in for a Phase I trial and we were able to give him another year and a half," recalls Dr. Carbone. "His family was so appreciative, that his wife called me when he was dying and helped facilitate a rapid autopsy. We found EGFR mutations in his tumor and reported it a year before it became generally recognized."

Patients play a major role in Dr. Carbone's motivation and success. "I enjoy working on both sides of the street: treating and learning from patients and their tumors, and also working in the lab to help improve their treatments," explains Dr. Carbone who is a member of LUNGeity's Scientific Advisory Board. "I've believed in the importance of patient advocacy for a long time...The people at LUNGeity are dedicated and effective advocates and I'm honored to be involved with helping them."

**Suzanne E. Dahlberg, PHD –**

***Boston Children's Hospital***

***Institutional Centers for Clinical and Translational Research***

*Assistant Director of Clinical Trial Biostatistics and Data Management*

Suzanne Dahlberg is assistant director of Clinical Trial Biostatistics and Data Management for the Institutional Centers for Clinical and Translational Research at Boston's Children's Hospital as well as a statistician collaborating with the hospital's Divisions of Adolescent/Young Adult Medicine and Pulmonary Medicine.

Dr. Dahlberg holds a doctorate in Biostatistics from Harvard University, and her primary research focuses on the design, conduct, analysis, and reporting of observational studies, pre-clinical experiments, and phase I-IV clinical and translational trials. She is also interested in the design of expansion cohorts and the statistical challenges that arise from competing risks, masked-cause failure time data, and missing data.

**Maximilian Diehn, MD, PHD –**

***Stanford University School of Medicine***

*CRK Faculty Scholar and Associate Professor*

*Division Chief of Radiation and Cancer Biology & Vice Chair of Research*

*Department of Radiation Oncology*

***Stanford Cancer Institute***

***Institute for Stem Cell Biology and Regenerative Medicine***

Maximilian Diehn is the CRK Faculty Scholar and Associate Professor of Radiation Oncology at Stanford University. He is the Vice Chair of Research of the Department of Radiation Oncology and the Division Chief of Radiation and Cancer Biology.

Dr. Diehn received his bachelor's degree in biochemical sciences from Harvard College and his MD/PhD in biophysics from Stanford University. He is a board-certified radiation oncologist and specializes in the treatment of lung cancers.

Dr. Diehn's research program spans laboratory, translational, and clinical studies. His main areas of interest include liquid biopsies, lung cancer biology, and mechanisms of resistance to anti-cancer therapies including radiotherapy, immunotherapy, and targeted therapies. He has served on committees for a variety of national organizations including ASTRO, ASCO, AACR, and RSNA and is a Scientific Editor for Cancer Discovery.

Dr. Diehn has received funding from organizations such as the NIH, Department of Defense, and Stand Up To Cancer and he has been recognized with a variety of awards, including the NIH Director's New Innovator Award, the V Foundation Scholar Award, the Sidney Kimmel Scholar Award, the Doris Duke Clinical Scientist Development Award, and election into the American Society for Clinical Investigation.

In 2021, Dr. Diehn was elected to the National Academy of Medicine, which is considered one of the highest honors in the fields of health and medicine and recognizes individuals who have demonstrated outstanding professional achievement and commitment to service.

**Jessica S. Donington, MD, MSCR –**

***University of Chicago Medicine***

*Professor of Surgery*

*Chief, Section of Thoracic Surgery*

Dr. Donington is Professor and Chief of the Section of General Thoracic Surgery at University of Chicago Medicine.

Her clinical and interests focus on the early diagnosis and treatment of non-small cell lung cancer. Areas of expertise include the use of multimodality therapy for thoracic malignancies, treatment options for high risk patients with early stage lung cancer and lung cancer in women. She is the surgical chair for the thoracic oncology section of NRG Oncology Group. She is the immediate past president of the Women in Thoracic Surgery and the New York Society for Thoracic Surgery.

**Steven M. Dubinett, MD –**

***David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA***

*Interim Dean*

*Associate Vice Chancellor for Research*

*Distinguished Professor of Medicine, Pharmacology and Pathology*

*Director, Clinical and Translational Science Institute*

Dr. Steve Dubinett is a creative scientist. He believes in looking hard at the scientific data and then pushes his thoughts away from conventional ideas. He likes to work collaboratively with others who are willing to forge new paths in research and it has paid off. Dr. Dubinett is best known for uncovering surprising connections between inflammation and lung cancer.

His findings, which show how the body's inflammatory response contributes to converting a normal epithelial cell into a lung cancer cell, are likely to have major translational applications. This kind of impact is exactly why Dr. Dubinett is interested in studying lung cancer. "It affords us the opportunity to do work that is scientifically based and reaches patients in a meaningful way."

"Lung cancer remains underfunded in the United States," explains Dr. Dubinett, a member of LUNGeVity's Scientific Advisory Board. "We have lacked the imagination about what we may be able to do for patients who are at risk or who have lung cancer. Adequately funding research will make a profound impact in this major health problem."

As a recipient of a 2010 LUNGeVity grant, Dr. Dubinett has seen the benefits of LUNGeVity's thorough grant selection process. LUNGeVity is interested in getting meaningful results quickly, says Dr. Dubinett, and they are open to creative ideas as long as the ideas are backed up by solid scientific data.

Over the past decade, Dr. Dubinett and his team have been studying the microenvironments surrounding lung cancer tumors. Their findings show that while early tumors often are asymptomatic and too small to be detected on imaging scans, they do alter the proteins and microRNA of the patient's blood in order to encourage tumor development.

Dr. Dubinett, a pioneer in his field, has been investigating the use of these proteins and microRNAs as biomarkers for early stage lung cancer. Over time, this unique approach has come to be supported by a wealth of data from other laboratories as well. The team's preliminary studies have already led them to develop a biomarker panel that accurately distinguishes smokers with and without lung cancer and they predict the blood test in development will have high sensitivity.

LUNGeivity is proud to fund the development of this blood test that could detect lung cancer before it is too late.

Note: LUNGeivity follows the gold standard process of reviewing and selecting grants that is used by the National Cancer Institute. Therefore, Dr. Dubinett was not involved in the review and selection of his research grant.

**Patrick Forde, MD (MB, BCH) –**

***The Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center at Johns Hopkins***

*Associate Professor of Oncology*

*Director of the Thoracic Cancer Clinical Research Program*

Dr. Forde has led the development of a clinical-translational research program focused on the immunology of upper aerodigestive malignancies.

Dr. Forde's research examines the role of immunotherapy for earlier-stage lung cancer, and his work has led to the development of several ongoing phase III trials.

**Edward W. Gabrielson, MD –**

***Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine***

*Professor of Pathology and Oncology*

Dr. Edward W. Gabrielson is a professor of pathology and oncology at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine.

He specializes in molecular pathology, with particular emphasis on the pathology of breast, esophageal and lung cancers. Dr. Gabrielson serves as the co-director of the graduate program in pathobiology.

He received his MD from Northwestern University in 1977. He conducted a residency in pathology at the University of Colorado School of Medicine in 1982, and completed a fellowship in pathology at the National Institutes of Health in 1985.

Dr. Gabrielson has authored or co-authored numerous peer-reviewed publications and is board certified in Anatomic and Clinical Pathology.

**Edward B. Garon, MD –**

***Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center at UCLA***

*Director of Thoracic Oncology*

***David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA***

*Professor of Medicine, Division of Hematology-Oncology*

Edward Garon, MD, is the director of Thoracic Oncology at the Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center at UCLA and professor of Medicine at David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA.

After growing up in Minneapolis, he earned a bachelor's degree in biology at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. His MD degree is from Washington University in St. Louis. He performed his internship and residency at the University of Chicago.

After a chief residency at Cook County Hospital in Chicago, Dr Garon was a fellow in hematology and oncology at UCLA. He has remained at UCLA ever since and is currently an Associate Professor of Medicine in the Division of Hematology-Oncology at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA. He also received a Master's degree in clinical investigation from UCLA.

Dr Garon has been the principal investigator of peer-reviewed grants from various funding organizations, including the National Cancer Institute. His focus is on clinical research and biomarker development. He has served as the principal investigator on national and international phase I, II, and III clinical trials, including trials that have led to the approval of multiple drugs, among them the non-small cell lung cancer drugs ramucirumab (Cyramza®) and the immunotherapy pembrolizumab (Keytruda®), along with a companion diagnostic.

**John V. Heymach, MD, PHD –**

***The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center***

*Professor and Chairman, Department of Thoracic/Head and Neck Medical Oncology*

*Division of Cancer Medicine*

Dr. John V. Heymach is the Chairman of Thoracic/Head and Neck Medical Oncology, the Chief of Thoracic Medical Oncology, and an Associate Professor in the Departments of Thoracic Head and Neck Medical Oncology and Cancer Biology at The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center.

Dr. Heymach joined the MD Anderson faculty in 2005 as an assistant professor, with a joint appointment in Thoracic/Head and Neck Medical Oncology and Cancer Biology. He was promoted to associate professor in 2009. He received his undergraduate degree from Harvard University and both his MD and PhD from Stanford University Medical School in California. He then completed his internship and residency at Brigham and Women's Hospital and his fellowship in Medical Oncology at Dana-Farber



Cancer Institute. During his fellowship, Dr. Heymach worked in the prestigious laboratory of Dr. Judah Folkman with clinical mentorship under Dr. Bruce Johnson.

Dr. Heymach's research focuses on investigating mechanisms of therapeutic resistance, understanding the regulation of angiogenesis in lung cancer, and developing biomarkers for selecting patients most likely to benefit from targeted agents. Dr. Heymach has led a number of Phase I/II clinical trials in NSCLC and currently serves as the principal investigator on the BATTLE-frontline trial using novel combinations of targeted agents as frontline therapy for NSCLC patients. His work has been extensively published in prominent peer-reviewed journals.

Dr. Heymach currently serves as a project co-leader on the Lung Cancer and Head and Neck SPOREs, and is the PI on an NCI R01 award, a LUNgevity Foundation grant, and an AACR Stand Up to Cancer grant. He is the recent recipient of a V Foundation Translational Research Award, on which he serves as PI. He also serves as a co-leader of the MD Anderson Lung Cancer Moon Shot Project. He is a past recipient of the Damon Runyon Clinical Investigator Award, an ASCO Career Development Award, the Wilson Stone Award for Basic Science Research, the Emil J. Frei Award for Translational Research, and the MD Anderson Physician Scientist award. He was elected to the American Society for Clinical Investigation in 2013.

Dr. Heymach is dedicated to education and mentorship, as recognized when he was awarded Mentor of the Year in 2008. He is extremely supportive of his trainees and has supervised numerous graduate students, postdoctoral and medical oncology fellows, and junior faculty.

**Robert L. Keith, MD –**

***University of Colorado, Denver***

*Professor of Medicine and Cancer Biology*

***Rocky Mountain Regional VAMC***

*Associate Chief of Staff – Research*

Dr. Keith's research interests focus on the early detection and prevention of lung cancer. Specifically, his team is examining prostaglandin manipulation and PPAR gamma agonists in pre-clinical models of non-small cell lung cancer, including genetically modified mice. An NCI-sponsored human trial is nearing completion and he recently initiated an immunoprevention trial in high risk subjects. His team's chemoprevention trials include performing bronchoscopy to detect pre-malignant central airway lesions, and they are better characterizing these lesions to better determine which will progress to invasive lung cancer. This involves characterizing the epithelial cells, the lesional microenvironment, and biomarker discovery/validation.

**Benjamin P. Levy, MD –**

***Johns Hopkins School of Medicine:***

*Associate Professor*

***Johns Hopkins Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center, Washington, DC:***

*Clinical Director*

Dr. Benjamin Levy is associate professor at the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine and clinical director of The Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center, Johns Hopkins Medicine at Sibley Hospital in Washington, DC.

Prior to his Hopkins appointment, Dr. Levy was medical director of Thoracic Oncology Program for Mount Sinai Health Systems in New York City and associate director of the Cancer Clinical Trials Office (CCTO).

Dr. Levy is a physician-scientist who is currently leading immunotherapy trials evaluating checkpoint inhibitors with novel combination strategies, as well as targeted therapy trials. Dr. Levy has played an integral role on several American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) committees and currently serves as associate editor for the ASCO University Committee as well as editor-in-chief for the ASCO Self-Evaluation Program (ASCO-SEP®).

He recently completed two terms on the editorial board for the Journal of Clinical Oncology (JCO) and currently serves as senior associate editor for Clinical Lung Cancer. He is an ad hoc reviewer for The Oncologist, Oncotarget, and Clinical Cancer Research (CCR).

He was recently selected as one of only 15 oncologists in the country to join the prestigious ASCO Leadership Development Program, whose mission is to identify and develop future leaders of ASCO. In addition to his ASCO commitments, Dr. Levy serves on the ALLIANCE Respiratory Committee, the IASLC Staging Committee, and the IASLC Career Development & Fellowship Committee.

**Christine M. Lovly, MD, PHD –**

***Vanderbilt University Medical Center***

***Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center***

*Associate Professor of Medicine, Division of Hematology-Oncology*

*Ingram Associate Professor of Cancer Research*

*Co-Leader, Translational Research and Interventional Oncology Program*

*Section Chief, Basic and Translational Research, Division of Hematology-Oncology*

Dr. Lovly, a former LUNgevity Career Development Awardee, is a physician-scientist who splits her time between clinical care and laboratory research.

Her clinical practice focuses primarily on the care of patients with lung cancer. Her laboratory research focuses on understanding and developing improved therapeutic strategies for specific clinically relevant molecular subsets of lung cancer. She is also co-editor-in-chief for the website [www.mycancergenome.org](http://www.mycancergenome.org), a Vanderbilt-initiated freely available website that aims to provide

healthcare practitioners, patients, and advocates with up-to-date information on genetically informed cancer medicine.

Dr. Lovly received a BA in chemistry from Johns Hopkins University followed by MD and PhD degrees as part of the Medical Scientist Training Program at Washington University in St. Louis, MO. She then completed internal medicine residency and medical oncology subspecialty training at Vanderbilt University. During her final year of fellowship, she was the Jim and Carol O'Hare Chief Fellow. She started on faculty at Vanderbilt in July 2013.

Dr. Lovly has received grant funding from NIH/NCI, Uniting Against Lung Cancer, the Conquer Cancer Foundation of the American Society of Clinical Oncology, the Sarcoma Foundation of America, the American Cancer Society, the Damon Runyon foundation, LUNgevity Foundation, the V Foundation, the American Association for Cancer Research, and Lung Cancer Foundation of America / International Association for the Study of Lung Cancer. She is an active member in the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO), the International Association for the Study of Lung Cancer (IASLC), and the American Association for Cancer Research (AACR). Dr. Lovly is also an elected member of the American Society for Clinical Investigation (ASCI) and serves on the Editorial Board for Cancer Discovery.

**Drew Moghanaki, MD, MPH –**

***UCLA Department of Radiation Oncology***

*Stanley Lezman and Nancy Stark Endowed Chair in Thoracic Radiation Oncology Research*

*Professor and Chief of Thoracic Oncology*

***VA Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System***

Dr. Drew Moghanaki is Professor and Chief of Thoracic Oncology in the UCLA Department of Radiation Oncology. He holds a joint appointment at the VA Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System, where he directs patient care and research for veterans with lung cancer.

Dr. Moghanaki leads several national lung cancer initiatives in the VA, including the VA Partnership to Increase Access to Lung Screening (VA-PALS) and the phase III VA Lung Cancer Surgery or Stereotactic Radiotherapy (VALOR) randomized clinical trial. He has been a member, advisor, and chair of multiple committees for national organizations and advocacy groups, including the American Cancer Society, American Society of Clinical Oncology, American Society of Radiation Oncology, Radiosurgery Society, Veterans Health Administration, LUNgevity Foundation, GO2 Foundation for Lung Cancer, and the International Association for the Study of Lung Cancer.

**Paul K. Paik, MD –**

***Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center***

*Associate Attending Physician*

*Clinical Director, Thoracic Oncology Service*

Paul Paik is a medical oncologist at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center who specializes in the treatment of lung cancers.

Dr. Paik's research focuses on squamous cell lung cancer therapy, targeted therapeutics, and translational therapies aimed at the metastatic process.

**Lawrence H. Schwartz, MD –**

***Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center***

*Chair, Department of Radiology*

At a time when most researchers could only see limited uses for CT scans and MRIs, Dr. Larry Schwartz saw more. A scientific visionary, Dr. Schwartz understood their greater potential and set out to develop novel uses for these imaging tools.

Today, Dr. Schwartz, Chair of Radiology at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, is best known for developing CT and MRI imaging techniques that have opened new doors for the early detection and treatment of cancer. He has also encouraged the expansion of the technical capabilities of imaging tools through national collaborative efforts.

The findings from Dr. Schwartz's laboratory combined with the work of national collaborations have played critical roles in the development of breakthrough imaging techniques. Though it was barely imaginable thirty years ago, there are now imaging tools that can reliably detect cell metabolism and cell proliferation. And more lifesaving technologies are on the horizon, says Dr. Schwartz.

Progress in the field of imaging is particularly important in the early detection and treatment of lung cancer because lung biopsies are invasive and potentially dangerous. "We need to find new biomarkers to be able to conduct non-invasive biopsies to determine optimal treatment plans and to track progress of lung cancer treatments," explains Dr. Schwartz.

Currently, Dr. Schwartz's team is developing imaging techniques to quantify changes in lung cancer. These techniques, which can show if the lung cancer has improved or worsened, can then be used in clinical trials to help determine the efficacy of new drugs.

Despite the low level of federal funding for lung cancer, we are on the cusp of major breakthroughs in lung cancer early detection and treatment, says Dr. Schwartz.

This underscores the importance of financial support from organizations like LUNGevery. "Working together, we can improve imaging techniques to make a tremendous impact on lung cancer in terms of figuring out how to diagnose it better, how to treat patients and how we monitor lung cancer treatments," he says.

As a member of LUNGeVity's Scientific Advisory Board, Dr. Schwartz puts his visionary skills toward reviewing translational research grants and setting LUNGeVity's research strategy.

**Lecia V. Sequist, MD, MPH –**

***Harvard Medical School***

*The Landry Family Associate Professor of Medicine*

***Massachusetts General Hospital Cancer Center***

*Director of the Center for Innovation in Early Cancer Detection*

Dr. Sequist is originally from Michigan and studied chemistry at Cornell University. She received her MD from Harvard Medical School and trained in internal medicine at the Brigham and Women's Hospital and in hematology/oncology at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, where she also received an MPH from the Harvard School of Public Health. She joined the faculty at the Massachusetts General Hospital Cancer Center in 2005 and has an active clinical and translational research career, as well as a busy practice caring for patients with lung cancer. She is currently the Landry Family Associate Professor of Medicine at Harvard Medical School and the Director of the Center for Innovation in Early Cancer Detection at Massachusetts General Hospital. She has held grants from the NIH, the DOD, and many private foundations. Dr. Sequist's research focuses on studying targeted therapeutics for lung cancer and bringing new non-invasive tests like circulating tumor cells and circulating tumor DNA to treat and detect lung cancer. In her free time, she likes to spend time with her husband, two sons and her dog, and is a hockey and dance mom.

**Alice T. Shaw, MD, PHD –**

***Novartis Institutes for BioMedical Research***

*Vice President, Global Head of Translational Clinical Oncology*

Dr. Shaw is the vice president, Global Head of Translational Clinical Oncology, at Novartis Institutes for BioMedical Research.

Prior to that, Dr. Shaw was the director of the Center for Thoracic Cancers at Massachusetts General Hospital and professor of medicine at Harvard Medical School. Dr. Shaw has performed clinical and translational research. Her clinical research has focused on subsets of NSCLC that have unique driver mutations, such as EGFR, ALK, and ROS1. Her translational research has focused on understanding and making clear the mechanisms of resistance to targeted therapies to develop novel combination treatment strategies. Dr. Shaw's research has helped to develop numerous FDA-approved targeted therapies for patients with oncogene-driven NSCLC, such as crizotinib (Xalkori®) for patients with ALK or ROS1 rearrangements, and ceritinib (Zykadia®) and alectinib (Alecensa®) for patients with crizotinib-resistant, ALK-rearranged NSCLC.

Stanford Cancer Institute/Stanford University School of Medicine

**Steven J. Skates, PHD –**

***Harvard Medical School and Massachusetts General Hospital***

*Associate Professor*

Developing new statistical methods for early detection of cancer and evaluating their impact through multiple large clinical screening trials is not easy. Just ask Dr. Steven Skates. Building upon his formidable biostatistics expertise, Dr. Skates has spent decades designing early detection methods which accurately diagnose early-stage ovarian cancer when it may be more treatable and curable with existing therapies.

Currently when a woman is suspected of ovarian cancer, she is often screened for a blood biomarker, called CA-125. If the blood test result exceeds the threshold level of 35, she is evaluated further for ovarian cancer. Because ovarian cancer is relatively infrequent, it is crucial that this initial blood test is very accurate. If the initial screening provides too many false positive results, they can overwhelm the true positive cases.

Dr. Skates has a better way to screen women for ovarian cancer that personalizes the blood test to each individual.

By establishing an individual's baseline for the biomarker and allowing for the natural biomarker fluctuations that occur over time, Dr. Skates' method increases the accuracy of early detection screening for ovarian cancer. In this method, a woman's blood test results are monitored over time and her risk of ovarian cancer is estimated after each test result. When this risk, based on her personal CA-125 history, is increased, she is then referred for further evaluation.

This method is more accurate than the current approach because it reduces the number of false positives in women who have elevated but stable CA-125 levels. In addition, it increases the chance of detecting the true positives early by identifying these women based on their own baseline levels of CA-125.

"It sounds easy," says Dr. Skates. "But it has taken me twenty years to develop and test this sensitive and systematic algorithm, first in a pilot screening trial of 14,000 normal risk women over five years, then in a much larger 15 year trial." In 2015, the largest clinical screening trial to implement this method, comprised of 200,000 women, half randomized to screening and half receiving standard care, will be ready for Dr. Skates and his team to begin analyzing the results.

"We'll get a chance to see if we've been successful in reducing ovarian cancer mortality," says Dr. Skates, Associate Professor in the Department of Medicine at the Massachusetts General Hospital Cancer Center and Harvard Medical School.

Over the past five years, Dr. Skates and his colleagues have also been leveraging the blood samples from their clinical trial participants to identify new ovarian cancer biomarkers that complement the biomarkers that are currently available.

With such a rich background in the early detection of cancer, Dr. Skates was excited to join LUNGEvity's Scientific Advisory Board and turn his expertise towards lung cancer.

“Colleagues at Harvard have died from lung cancer. It’s one of the biggest killers,” says Dr. Skates. “And the lung cancer community needs a blood test that’s inexpensive and accurate. It would be a great contribution the field.”

That is exactly where Dr. Skates excels. His areas of expertise: identifying new biomarkers, designing early detection methods and implementing them in screening studies are well-positioned to help LUNGevery and the lung cancer community as they search for screening methods and useful biomarkers.

Overall, whether Dr. Skates is reducing mortality of lung cancer patients or ovarian cancer patients, his motivation is the same. “My hope is that all my years of study and training ultimately have an effect on patients’ lives. In the end, new discoveries are really the stepping stones to helping patients.”

**Avrum Spira, MD, MSCI –**

***Johnson & Johnson***

*Global Head, Lung Cancer Initiative*

***Boston University***

*Professor of Medicine, Pathology & Bioinformatics*

*Director, J&J Innovation Lung Cancer Center at Boston University*

*Alexander Graham Bell Professor in Healthcare Entrepreneurship*

Dr. Avi Spira is making the world sit up and take notice. He is changing the way doctors handle patients at increased risk for lung cancer. After over a decade of grueling hours and painstaking persistence, Dr. Spira and his team have found a way to test the cells of a smoker’s or former smoker’s airway to determine if the patient is at risk for having or developing lung cancer. These cells are like a canary in a coal mine, Dr. Spira explained to the audiences of The Today Show and NBC Nightly News. “Though these were small studies and we are in the early days of the research, this test could represent a huge shift in the way doctors approach lung cancer care in the future.”

Our current medical practices are very limited when it comes to early diagnostics and effective therapies for those who are diagnosed. That’s why Dr. Spira wants to get results quickly. “We don’t primarily work with cells in dishes or animals in cages,” he says, “We want to get something into clinics to help patients.” And he is on his way. The test of airway cells that Dr. Spira developed is now being validated in a FDA-approved clinical trial. If the results do validate, Dr. Spira’s test will have a resounding impact on how the medical community cares for those at highest risk for lung cancer.

More amazing findings are on the horizon. “What we can do now scientifically is unprecedented and it’s going to get even better over the next five years,” he predicts. All fields of medicine will benefit from recent technological and scientific advances, such as super computing and the mapping of the human genome, including the care and treatment of lung cancer patients.

In the next five years Dr. Spira expects that doctors will be able to use biomarker tests to identify high-risk patients before they get the disease or when it is in early stages. And once the disease has been diagnosed, Dr. Spira foresees a more personalized approach to treatment. “We won’t just use chemo on everyone,” he says with excitement. “We’ll look for markers to help identify which treatments will be the most effective.”

And that's where organizations like LUNGeity come in. "I really think that this foundation has an immediate impact by letting patients and families know that there is hope and by asking the public to support lung cancer research," says Dr. Spira, who is a member of the LUNGeity Foundation's Scientific Advisory Board. "This foundation must continue funding highly innovative projects and supporting young researchers interested in studying lung cancer."

**Brendon Stiles, MD –**

***Montefiore Health System, Bronx, NY***

*Chief of Thoracic Surgery and Surgical Oncology*

***Albert Einstein Cancer Center***

*Associate Director of Surgical Oncology*

Dr. Stiles has clinical expertise in lung and esophageal cancer and also leads a comprehensive translational and clinical lung cancer research program.

Dr. Stiles is the Vice Chair of the Board of Directors of the Lung Cancer Research Foundation, Vice Chair of the AATS Foundation Advisory Council, a member of the Lung-RADS Steering Committee, and Chair of the IASLC Communications Committee.

**Anil Vachani, MD –**

***University of Pennsylvania***

*Associate Professor of Medicine, Pulmonary, Allergy, and Critical Care Division*

Dr. Vachani is a pulmonologist and physician-scientist at Penn Medicine and the Philadelphia VA Medical Center.

Dr. Vachani co-directs the Lung Cancer Screening (LCS) programs at both institutions and leads efforts to implement lung cancer screening protocols, including the provision of tobacco dependence services to active smokers undergoing low dose CT screening and management of patients with positive findings. His research interests broadly focus on the studies that address important process and outcome questions relevant to the study of quality and comparative effectiveness of current approaches for prevention, screening, diagnosis and management of lung cancer and other thoracic malignancies. His current work, funded by the NCI and PCORI, use multicenter observational approaches and interventional studies to assess key outcomes relevant to LCS implementation and the assessment of behavioral economic approaches to tobacco dependence treatment within the context of screening.