



THE LUSTGARTEN FOUNDATION GRANTS \$19.5 MILLION FOR PANCREATIC CANCER RESEARCH INVESTIGATORS, BRINGING ITS 2014 TOTAL CONTRIBUTION TO \$35 MILLION

BETHPAGE, NY – January 7, 2015 – The Lustgarten Foundation, the nation's largest private funder of pancreatic cancer research, today announced that it awarded \$19.5 million in research grants to 13 prominent scientists who were nominated by their peers for significant achievements in the field of pancreatic cancer research. The new “Research Investigator” grants, which begin this year, will allow these scientists to dedicate more focus to identifying new breakthroughs in pancreatic cancer research and accelerating a path to a cure.

The three-year grants will address early detection and monitoring, drug development and delivery, and pancreatic cancer prevention. The Research Investigator grant recipients are:

- Lewis Cantley, Ph.D., Joan & Sanford I. Weill Medical College of Cornell University
- Channing Der, Ph.D., University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
- Stephen Fesik, Ph.D., Vanderbilt University Medical Center
- Charles Fuchs, M.D., Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
- Tony Hunter, Ph.D., Salk Institute for Biological Studies
- Tyler Jacks, Ph.D., Koch Institute for Integrative Cancer Research at MIT
- Alison Klein, Ph.D., Johns Hopkins School of Medicine
- Steven Leach, M.D., Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center
- Scott Lowe, Ph.D., Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center
- Frank McCormick, Ph.D., UCSF Helen Diller Family Comprehensive Cancer Center
- Hidde Ploegh, Ph.D., Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research
- Julien Sage, Ph.D., Stanford University
- Diane Simeone, M.D., University of Michigan Medical Center

With these new grants, The Lustgarten Foundation's 2014 pancreatic cancer research contributions totaled \$35 million. Due to the support of Cablevision Systems Corporation, a leading media and telecommunications company, 100 percent of every dollar donated to the Foundation goes directly to research.

“Research is the only way that we’re going to defeat pancreatic cancer,” said Dr. David Tuveson, director of research at [The Lustgarten Foundation](#) and director of The Lustgarten Foundation Pancreatic Cancer Research Laboratory at Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory. “Since its inception, The Lustgarten Foundation has collaborated with and supported expert investigators to fight this devastating disease and to offer new hope to patients and their families. We remain committed to funding critical research, which is our best weapon for a cure.”

About Pancreatic Cancer

Pancreatic cancer is swift and silent, often undetected until it’s too late. The overall five-year survival rate for pancreatic cancer is six percent and most with advanced cancer die within a year. There are no early detection tests, no effective long-term treatments and, unless the cancer is surgically removed in its earliest stages, no cure. It is the fourth-leading cause of cancer deaths in the United States. For more information about pancreatic cancer, please visit: www.curePC.org/infographic.

About The Lustgarten Foundation

The Lustgarten Foundation is America's largest private foundation dedicated to funding pancreatic cancer research. Based in Bethpage, New York, the Foundation supports research to find a cure for pancreatic cancer, facilitates dialogue within the medical and scientific community, and educates the public about the disease through awareness campaigns and fundraising events. Since its inception, the Foundation has directed more than \$110 million to research and assembled the best scientific minds with the hope that one day, a cure can be found. Cablevision Systems Corporation, a leading media and telecommunications company, underwrites The Lustgarten Foundation's administrative costs, so 100 percent of every dollar donated to the Foundation goes directly to pancreatic cancer research. The Lustgarten Foundation and Cablevision are also partners in the curePC public awareness campaign in support of the fight against pancreatic cancer. For additional information, please visit www.curePC.org.

###

Media Contact:

Sabrina Strauss / Goodman Media International
(212) 576-2700 / sstrauss@goodmanmedia.com