



Pictured is a representative group from Winship's Survivorship Program. Front, from left to right: Jonathan Beitler, MD, MBA, FACR; Mary Brookhart, BS; Wendy Baer, MD; Margaret Hughes, MSW; Kandra Horne, NP; Tiffany Barrett, MS, RD, CSO, LD. Back, from left to right: William Gesner, Jr., MBA; Hayley Kenslea, MHA; James Hankins, MSW, LCSW; Carolyn Reilly, PhD, RN.

Wellness for Living: Care Beyond Treatment

THERE ARE MORE THAN TWELVE MILLION cancer survivors in the United States—a number that will rise in the coming years thanks to better cancer detection and cancer therapies. The Winship Cancer Institute has responded to this wonderful population surge by establishing a series of programs for cancer survivors.

A survivor is not simply someone who successfully undergoes cancer treatment. Winship follows the definition set forth by the National Coalition for Cancer Survivorship as anyone who receives a diagnosis along with the family, friends, and voluntary caregivers who are affected by that diagnosis.

“Winship’s physicians and investigators recognize the importance of caring for patients beyond their treatment episodes,” said Walter J. Curran, Jr., MD, Winship’s executive director. “Through a conscious, collaborative effort, Winship has developed a survivorship program that will be the national model for such programs and that will advance our knowledge in this arena.”

The Best and the Brightest

Implementing a supportive care and survivorship program that meets the needs of patients and their family members in all phases of care requires exceptional leadership. Over the past several years, Winship has put some of the best and brightest researchers and clinicians in place to lead the program.

Among these leaders is Deborah Bruner, PhD, RN, FAAN, one of the nation’s pre-eminent cancer researchers. Thanks in large part to a generous donation from Sarah and Jim Kennedy, Emory was able to recruit Bruner as a professor of nursing at the Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing and as associate director of cancer outcomes at Winship. In 2011, Bruner was named the Robert W. Woodruff Professor of Nursing at Emory University; named in honor of legendary philanthropist and president of the Coca-Cola Company, the professorship is one of the highest distinctions for Emory faculty. Bruner’s recruitment to Emory has provided a tremendous impetus for collaboration, and her pioneering leadership within the NCI-supported Radiation Therapy Oncology Group (RTOG) puts Winship on the national frontline of supportive oncology care research.

Director's Update



AS WE COME TO THE END OF 2013, it is a great time to look back on the year and ahead to the next. Achievement and growth go hand-in-hand, and Winship Cancer Institute has experienced both this year. We have seen unprecedented progress in all areas of our operation, and such development means we need the support of our donors more than ever before.

Winship's top priority in the last year has been to develop a world-class clinical trials program. Clinical trials allow us to offer therapies of the future today, and our program has shown tremendous growth in quantity, quality, and innovation.

By heavily investing in the recruitment of world-class talent at all levels of our research operation, we are able to enroll more than 750 patients in clinical trials annually. Winship provides an environment that encourages collaboration between basic scientists and clinical investigators, promoting the development of innovative treatment programs that bring laboratory discoveries directly to the clinic. In fact, more than half of our clinical trials are investigator-initiated.

As the competitiveness of government grants continues to increase and funding continues to decrease, philanthropic support for translational research that seeds further funding has never been more important. Private philanthropy drives discovery at Winship, and support from our generous donors allows our physicians and scientists to make life-saving research and care options available to more patients throughout Georgia and the nation.

Your gifts of any size enable us to realize our ambitious goals and aid significantly in the fight against cancer. I invite you to take a personal tour of our labs and facilities to see how your contributions are being invested in innovative research and patient care. Please contact us at 404-778-5175 to make arrangements.

Again, I cannot thank you enough for your continued support of Winship. Your generosity has allowed us to grow into what we are today, and, with your support, our progress will continue as we hold steadfast to our mission of eliminating cancer from our lives.

Walter J. Curran, Jr., MD
Executive Director, Winship Cancer Institute

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

SAYING "NO MORE" TO MELANOMA

It's not often you hear someone who has been diagnosed with stage three melanoma describe themselves as "the luckiest person in the world," but that's exactly 27-year-old Neil Gaines' outlook on life. Like many others diagnosed with cancer, he remained optimistic—and is now dedicated to helping others do the same.

With the help of his wife Margaret, Neil founded MelaNoMo!, a nonprofit organization that hosts annual fundraisers to support melanoma research. In fact, Neil and his family were so impressed with the level of care they received at Winship that they now direct the proceeds from their annual October MelaNoMo! fundraiser, held on the banks of the Chattahoochee River, to the Winship Melanoma & Skin Cancer Fund. To date, they have donated over \$60,000 to melanoma research.



Neil and Margaret Gaines, with daughter Annie Kate, support melanoma research at Winship. Dr. David Lawson (left) is Neil's physician.

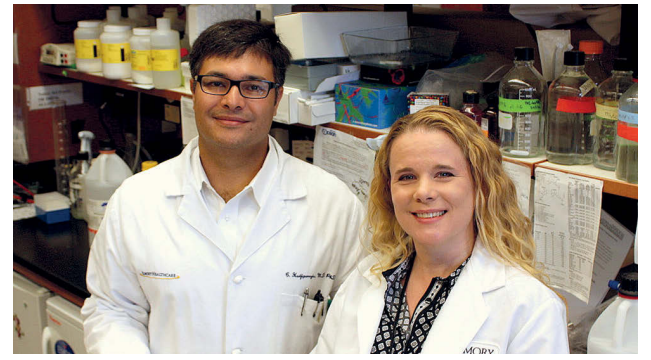
"They – Dr. [David] Lawson, Necia [Maynard], the whole Winship team – gave us so much that we want to do all we can to help them find answers to treat other patients," Neil said. "We want to raise awareness that 'skin cancer' can be a deadly disease."

Today, Neil, his wife, and their infant daughter Annie Kate are enjoying the normal routine of life of so many young families, and he believes he owes much of that to Winship. "I believe in the work that Winship does. If anyone can find cures for this disease, it will be Dr. Lawson and his team," said Neil. "I wouldn't be here without Winship."

FOUNDATION SUPPORTS BRAIN TUMOR RESEARCH

Among the national leaders in providing philanthropic support to brain tumor research is the Southeastern Brain Tumor Foundation (SBTF), which has awarded more than \$600,000 to Winship researchers since 2001. "The foundation's main mission is to create awareness of brain tumors and to develop funds for researchers to cure them," said Emory neurosurgeon and SBTF president Costas Hadjipanayis, MD, PhD.

In 2013, Renee Read, MD, assistant professor in Emory's Department of Pharmacology, received a \$75,000 SBTF grant to fund her research in the role of the Stk17A gene in glioblastoma invasion and proliferation. The SBTF Board of Directors presented Read with the Phil Jory Research Award. Named in honor of Phil Jory, who passed away from a glioblastoma, the award is periodically given to a researcher in recognition of a high-quality research grant. Jory's wife, Virginia, served faithfully on SBTF's Board for 10 years following his death.



Drs. Costas Hadjipanayis (left) and Renee Read (right) are part of Winship's Brain Tumor Center. Hadjipanayis serves as SBTF's President, and Read received a research grant from the foundation this year.

"Phil would be delighted to know that Dr. Read is the recipient of an award in his name," Jory said. "I am confident that her work, as well as the work of everyone else at Winship, will lead to significant advancements in brain tumor research."

SURVIVOR BRINGS JOY TO PATIENTS AND CAREGIVERS

Winship works hard to create a therapeutic atmosphere that promotes healing for patients and their families. One avenue is its Healing Arts Program. Recognizing the importance of warm and inviting artwork in the clinic, breast cancer survivor and Winship Advisory Board member Brenda Nease commissioned close friend Nancy Franke to create an original painting for Winship's second floor waiting room.

By donating artwork, Nease wanted to enhance the clinic environment for patients and their caregivers and to honor Toncred Styblo, MD, her surgeon and director of the Emory Clinic Surgical Breast Program. The commissioned piece includes a mother and her young children, recognizing the life that physicians have outside their professional lives. The figures in the piece represent Styblo on a beach walk with her son and daughter. "Dr. Styblo is more than just my doctor—she's become a dear friend," Nease said.

Her desire to make the experience of patients and their caregivers a more pleasant one is a hallmark of Nease's volunteerism. You will frequently find her playing the Winship baby grand piano, which was made possible by a special gift from family friend Howard Tellepsen to the Brenda Nease Fund. "We encourage volunteers, students, faculty, and members of the Emory community to come and play whenever they can," said Nease, who plays at least once a week.

"I think we find joy when we focus on our blessings and when we are reaching out to help others," Nease said. "Winship has given me both of these opportunities."



Winship Advisory Board member Brenda Nease donated artwork in honor of Dr. Toncred Styblo, (left).

Wellness for Living

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Through her focus on improving outcomes for cancer patients, Bruner witnesses the need for comprehensive survivorship clinics on a daily basis. “With an increase in the number of cancer survivors every year, survivorship and quality of life have become increasing issues of importance in quality cancer care,” she said.

Working closely with Bruner is Joan Giblin, NP, who serves as director of the survivorship program. Drawing on her 43 years of nursing experience, Giblin is a resource for patients and facilitates continued good health and quality of life for cancer survivors. “Establishing a comprehensive survivorship program is the right thing to do for our patients and families,” she said. “It fits in perfectly with our mission and vision as an NCI-designated cancer center.”

Innovative Research

There can be an array of unintended chronic conditions resulting from cancer treatment, and such effects can range from mild to serious and can vary from one survivor to the next. Philanthropic support is enabling physicians and researchers at Winship and Emory to focus efforts on better understanding issues that cancer survivors face after diagnosis and treatment.

Carla Berg, PhD, is a Winship Member and an assistant professor in the Department of Behavioral Sciences and Health Education in the Rollins School of Public Health. She is using funds from a Kennedy Pilot Grant to implement a healthy lifestyle intervention that focuses on smoking, alcohol consumption, physical activity, and mood in cancer survivors. Berg hopes that the program will encourage survivors to avoid high-risk health behaviors and will reduce aftereffects of treatment.

“The gift from the Kennedys is allowing us to look at lifestyle factors associated with cancer survivors, and this important research will enable us to better understand how we can couple positive health behaviors with cancer treatments to improve survivorship outcomes,” Berg said. “As cancer treatments continue to improve, research like this is critical to ensuring survivors can return to life as they know it.”

In the School of Nursing, Assistant Professor Carolyn Reilly, PhD, RN, CHFNP, FAHA, is studying cardiovascular diseases (CVDs) in lymphoma survivors. “We know that cancer survivors have an increased risk of developing CVD, but what we do not know is when they should be tested for the development of the disease,” she said. “Our hope is that, through our non-invasive testing, we can identify the development of CVD before a person has a heart attack or develops heart failure.” Reilly believes that educating survivors on their increased risks will empower them to make lifestyle changes that can reduce the chances that they will develop a CVD.

Mylin Torres, MD, Winship Member and assistant professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, utilizes funds as a Kennedy Scholar recipient and the Cooper Family Foundation’s gift to focus research efforts on breast cancer survivors. With support from the Cooper Foundation gift, Torres works in collaboration with Andrew Miller, MD, Winship Member and professor in the



Winship Advisory Board Member Barry Elson participates in the Winship at the Y Program. Elson has been a supporter of Winship for years, most recently donating welcome bags for new patients that include pillows, blankets, socks, and more.

Department of Psychiatry, to investigate what factors associated with breast cancer treatment that contribute to chronic behavioral distress.

“The gift from the Cooper Family Foundation is fostering the joint efforts of researchers with a variety of backgrounds and is helping make team science at Winship’s Glenn Family Breast Center a reality,” Miller said.

Winship at the Y

Winship’s team members are helping patients and their families move beyond treatment by partnering with other Atlanta-area organizations. Studies have demonstrated that physically active cancer survivors have a lower risk of cancer recurrence and improved chances of survival. In collaboration with the YMCA of Metro Atlanta, Winship implemented several programs aimed at supporting cancer survivors in their journey back to wellness beginning in 2012.

“The collaboration with the YMCA creates a one-of-a-kind survivorship program and expands our ability to conduct research trials,” Giblin said. “We are able to help survivors during and after treatment to set achievable goals, overcome obstacles, and learn exercises geared specifically to their needs.”

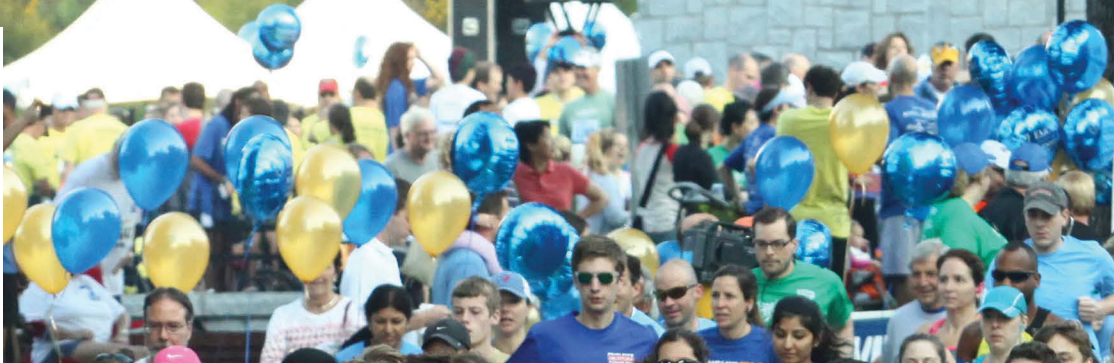
Funded by the Wilbur and Hilda Glenn Family Foundation, the unique collaborative program has received national recognition—the Association of Community Cancer Centers has chosen the program as a 2013 Innovator Award recipient. These awards recognize and honor pioneering strategies for the delivery of cancer care in a community setting.

Care Beyond Treatment

Survivorship, at its core, is about enabling a patient to return to normalcy after a cancer diagnosis and treatment. Winship is committed to providing compassionate care based on the newest therapies and treatment methods, and part of that care involves helping patients find their new normal.

“Cancer is not the death sentence that it used to be; it can be a chronic condition that people must live with more so than a terminal prognosis,” Bruner said. “So how can we help people live fully-engaged lives after cancer therapy? That’s what survivorship is all about.”

NEARLY 3,000 PEOPLE WIN



ON A BEAUTIFUL SATURDAY MORNING in early October, nearly 3,000 participants gathered to support Winship Cancer Institute at the third annual Win the Fight 5K. Records were shattered as more than \$480,000 was raised for cancer research at Winship. Many sponsors from previous years renewed their generous support, and we welcomed several new sponsors to the family.

“For me, the Winship 5K is about organizing talented professionals into systematic research efforts against breast cancer, myeloma, lung cancer, and the other two hundred-plus types of cancer,” said Walter J. Curran, Jr., MD, Winship’s executive director. “It is about believing that doing this at Winship has, and will continue to, reduce the burden of cancer on the citizens of Georgia and beyond. It is about supporting that belief in real in tangible ways. It is about winning the fight.”



Friends

OF WINSHIP

Letter from the Chairman



Kathy Bowman

How lucky we are to have *Friends* like you. We have had a terrific year that was made possible by your participation and support. Nothing is possible for *Friends* of Winship without you. Thank you.

In February, we hosted “Fashion A Cure,” our very first fashion show, which was an amazing success. Cancer survivors and care givers were our models and our clothes were provided by local boutiques. Karen Richardson and Missy Craver were the visionaries behind this event and, under their leadership, we raised over \$81,000!!! We were overjoyed and thank all of you who supported us.

In April, at Northern Trust’s Atlanta office, there was a lunch and panel discussion focused on multiple myeloma. These educational events are an important part of our mission and are always well attended, instructional, and inspirational. That day we had guests from as far away as Florida and Alabama, in addition to all our Georgia attendees. It is wonderful that information about cancer treatment and care from our Winship doctors is reaching an expanding community, and we thank Cappa Woodward for speaking at the event.

We had a Lemonade Social at Winship in May. It was a meaningful way for *Friends* to reach out to patients, caregivers, doctors and nurses. Katherine Olhausen organized us, and many of you helped us serve lemonade and cookies that were provided by Bennett Brown and Low Country Barbecue.

From January to May and September to November, we host Lunch-Bites on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at Winship. Our guests have the opportunity to visit the research labs, talk with the doctors, researchers, and nurse facilitators and then have lunch and more discussion. These experiences are very special and, if you have not attended, please do join us. You can call 404.778.1769 to learn more.

Our annual meeting was held on September 19th at the lovely home of Charlotte Dixon, a good *Friend* to us. It was a beautiful evening and we all enjoyed our time together, which included a delicious buffet from Low Country Barbecue. It is always a dynamic experience when *Friends* get together!! We missed those of you who couldn’t be with us. We had a fine time.

Friends had a huge presence at the 3rd annual Winship Win the Fight 5K. This event is a family affair - enjoyed by young and grown alike. Thanks to all who participated!

During the upcoming holidays, please consider helping current Winship patients and their families by purchasing gift card from grocery stores, gas stations or Visa cards which will directly offset expenses for those in financial need. Last year, *Friends* donated \$2,000 worth of gift cards, which had a huge impact.

Another way to make a difference is by making a donation to *Friends* of Winship in honor or in memory of a relative or friend. The dollars raised through this outreach will be used to fund the important research that is happening at Winship. We have lovely cards you can give to indicate you made a gift. Please call Tiffany Siegel at 404.273.7492 for more information.

Please mark your calendars – we have two upcoming events that will quickly sell out. On February 26th, we will have another Fashion Show. We are so fortunate to have Ada Lee Correll chairing this event. On March 29th, the 3rd Winship Gala will be held at the Piedmont Driving Club. Two of our members, Amy Kriesler and Julie Levine, are co-chairing, and the event honors Winship donors Lynne and Howard Halpern. Amy and Julie are a dynamic duo who have already been working hard to make this a magical evening. I hope to see all of you there.

Please remember to renew your membership. We need all of our *Friends*! Thank you and hugs to all *Friends*,

Kathy Bowman

Fall Member Party

On Thursday, September 19th, *Friends* member Charlotte Dixon opened her lovely home in Ansley Park for our Fall Member Party. *Friends* gathered to enjoy each other’s company, food from Low Country Barbecue, and comments from Chair Kathy Bowman and Winship Executive Director Walter J. Curran, Jr., MD.

Kathy reflected on another successful year for *Friends* and announced exciting plans for 2014. Dr. Curran gave an update on Winship, including recent accomplishments of our physicians and researchers.

“We are so appreciative of the work *Friends* does to support Winship and engage the community in the great work we are doing,” Curran said.

It was a wonderful evening spent with *Friends*!



Friends of Winship and other guests enjoyed the Fall Member Party at the home of member Charlotte Dixon, pictured far right. From left to right: Dr. Walter J. Curran, Jr., Katherine Ohlhausen, Laura Palickar-Curran, Bennett Brown, and Charlotte Dixon.

Holiday Help for Winship Families

In conjunction with Winship Social Services and Patient Support Services, *Friends* of Winship is committed to helping patients in active treatment and their families with basic needs this holiday season. We hope you can contribute!

The biggest need is gift cards that can be used to offset daily living expenses and make things easier during the holidays. Suggestions include grocery stores, Walmart, Target, QuikTrip or other gas cards, Prepaid Visa or American Express cards, and Toys R Us. You can send gift cards to Tiffany Siegel in the Winship Development Office at 1440 Clifton Road NE, Suite 170, Atlanta, GA 30322. Gift cards of all amounts are appreciated!

Last year, *Friends* donated an amazing \$2,000 worth of gift cards! This collective donation made a very special impact on the lives of Winship patients and their families. Thank you in advance for your support!

Fashion a Cure

The *Friends* "Fashion a Cure" Fashion Show, held back in February was an incredible success! Due to the tremendous support of sponsors, patrons, table hosts, boutiques, models and attendees, we raised an outstanding \$80,000 to benefit the treatment and research of cancers affecting women. This is an exciting result for this inaugural event!

Please mark your calendars for Wednesday, February 26, 2014 for our 2nd Fashion Show. *Friends* member Ada Lee Correll, will chair the committee, and the event will again be held at the Piedmont Driving Club.



Friends Member and 2014 Fashion Show Ada Lee Correll modeled in last year's event.

If you are interested in serving on the committee or hosting a table, please contact Pam McAdams at 404.727.6175 or pam.mcadams@emory.edu.



City Club of Buckhead Gala

On Wednesday, June 12th, the City Club of Buckhead hosted a fundraiser benefitting Winship Cancer Institute. City Club members and *Friends* gathered for a cocktail reception and auction on a beautiful summer evening. Proceeds from the event went directly to research. We are very grateful to the City Club for its support!

Lunch Bites

On the third Wednesday of the months of September through May, *Friends* hosts a tour of Winship Cancer Institute followed by lunch for a small group of members and guests. These tours conducted by Winship physicians and researchers are informative and a great way to learn more about what Winship is doing in the areas of patient care and research.



Lawrence Boise, PhD, led *Friends* members on a tour of Winship's laboratory space during September's Lunch Bites.

If you would like to host or join a Lunch Bites tour, please contact Tiffany Siegel at 404.273.7492 or tiffany.d.siegel@emory.edu.

Head and Neck Cancer Lunch and Panel Discussion

The next *Friends* educational event will feature a distinguished panel of physicians and researchers discussing Head and Neck Cancer treatment at Winship. Please join us for lunch on Thursday, November 14 from 11:00 am–1:00 pm at the offices of our host, Northern Trust, 3282 Northside Parkway, Atlanta. The event is free, but we do ask that you make a reservation to attend. Please contact winshipevents@emory.edu or 404.778.1769.

Winship Gala 2014

It's not too early to make plans to attend the Winship Gala 2014 on Saturday, March 29, 2014 at the Piedmont Driving Club. Please join us for an elegant evening of dinner and dancing. The event is chaired by *Friends* members Amy Kreisler and Julie Levine and honors Winship donors Lynne and Howard Halpern.

For information about supporting the Gala, please call 404.778.1769 or email winshipevents@emory.edu.



Friends members, Katherine Ohlhausen and Amy Hurst, helped treat patients and staff to an afternoon break at the Lemonade Social in May.

THE FIGHT WITH WINSHIP



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Family Honors Husband, Father with Myeloma Endowment

DR. NANCY NEWTON AND HER SON, ELLIOT GLASS, knew that their husband and father wanted to support Winship. That's why when Dr. David Bankes Glass, professor emeritus in pharmacology at Emory, passed away, Newton and Elliot created an endowment in his name and continue to contribute today.

"My dad was consistently very happy with Winship and everybody there," said Elliot. "We never felt rushed, which was so important for me. Dr. Lonial and everyone on his team always took the time to make sure all of our questions were fully answered and that we were completely comfortable with my father's treatment plan."

The David Banks Glass Endowment funds Winship's myeloma program and supports the research efforts of Sagar Lonial, MD, professor in the Department of Hematology and Medical Oncology, vice chair of clinical affairs, and director of translational research for the B-Cell Malignancy Program at Winship. "Dr. Glass was an incredible scientist, so to have an endowment to support laboratory work in myeloma in his name is quite amazing," Lonial said. "Having that kind of a legacy imprinted on the groundbreaking work we're doing here is an honor."

"We were pleased to be able to give Dr. Lonial oversight of our research fund with the hope that continued research will find advanced and more effective treatment options in the future," said Elliot.

Endowments and research funds allow Winship's physicians and scientists to conduct pioneering studies. Researchers rely on the foresight and generosity of individuals to set things in motion in the hope that high-risk, high-reward projects will give fruition to future studies and funding.

Newton, David's widow, is a graduate of Emory who spent her career in the medical field. Newton also has a passion for Winship and its people after being treated for breast cancer here.

"There is such great research going on at Winship, which, in addition to its clinical programs, is the cornerstone of a great cancer center," she said. "I would encourage anyone who can to give to Winship."

Above all, the Newton-Glass family has a deep and emotional connection to Winship. "I couldn't have asked for a better facility or people with whom to go through that unfortunate life situation," said Elliot. "We really felt like people genuinely cared about my father and our family's particular circumstances."



Dr. David Bankes Glass was treated for myeloma at Winship; his wife and son created an endowment in his memory.

Couple Funds Grants for Head and Neck Cancer Research

WHEN GREG GREGORY WAS DIAGNOSED with cancer of the larynx, he and his wife Amanda had no doubt that they would find the best possible care at Winship Cancer Institute. The world-class treatment Greg received has since lead the Gregorys to create a named fund for head and neck cancer research, participate in *Friends* of Winship, and serve on Winship's Advisory Board.

As a patient, Greg saw the impact of innovative research and high-quality patient care firsthand. "It gives extraordinary confidence to a patient to see the research and communication that goes on between the professionals about you and your case," he said. "You can tell that they are out to beat cancer, period. They're playing on a big stage, and Winship enables them to do that."



Winship Advisory Board and Friends members Amanda and Greg Gregory fund grants for head and neck cancer research. Dr. Nabil Saba (center) received the couple's first pilot grant.

In addition to becoming involved with Winship's auxiliary group and its Advisory Board, the Gregorys have committed \$75,000 to establish an expendable fund for head and neck cancer research. "After witnessing what cancer research can do personally and having the chance to see such research occurring during a tour of the labs, we knew that donating to Winship would help the incredible researchers continue to save lives," Amanda said.

The first pilot grant from The Gregory Family Fund for Head and Neck Cancer Research was awarded in December 2012 to fund research to identify genetic mutations linked to head and neck cancer caused by HPV infection. Nabil Saba, MD, FACP, chief of head and neck oncology and associate professor of hematology and medical oncology, is the study's principal investigator. "We are beyond appreciative of the research grant from the Gregorys. Gifts from patients and supporters like Amanda and Greg enable us to continue innovative research even in the face of governmental budget cuts," Saba said. "The information we derive from this research will help us take a step further in the treatment of head and neck cancer."

Much of the Gregorys motivation to give lies in the admiration they have for Winship's researchers. "A lot of becoming a cancer survivor is about the confidence you have in your care," Greg said. "The people at Winship have become a family. Their love and professionalism makes such a difference, and Amanda and I truly rejoice in that."

When Everyone Survives: One Family's Mission to Cure Leukemia

FOR BILL AND CLAIRE SMITH, it seemed only natural to commit to the fight against leukemia after losing their son, Wes, to the disease at twenty-two. In fact, they knew that is exactly what Wes, described as an incredible friend and a confident fighter, would have wanted them to do. Along with Wes' brother Sean, Bill created When Everyone Survives (WES), a foundation that, at its very core, seeks to cure leukemia.

"We knew that God wouldn't have had us go through the ordeal without giving us the obligation and mission to fund leukemia research so that some other parents may be spared the pain and tragedy we went through," said Bill. "Life is not always exactly what you want it to be, and sometimes there is tragedy. But this foundation gives us the opportunity to make sure that tragedy doesn't exist for everyone," Sean added.

The connection between WES and Winship is special: not only did Wes receive his care at Winship, but four of Emory's own physicians serve on the Medical Advisory Board for the Foundation. "I could not imagine having been anywhere else during treatment," Bill said.

Edmund Waller, MD, PhD, FACP, a member of the WES advisory board, associate director of clinical research at Winship, and director of the Bone Marrow and Stem Cell Transplantation Center, said that "the Smith family's focus has always been on curing leukemia, and they have attracted a world class group of investigators who have dedicated themselves to fulfilling that mission."

In addition to reviewing grants received by the foundation, Waller has recused himself from the Board at times to submit proposals of his own, paving the way for some of his work at Winship to be selected for support by WES grants through the foundation's peer review process. "As a recipient of philanthropic funds from the WES Foundation, I am grateful for the truly critical seed funding they have provided for promising ideas with high potential," he said.

What started as a gift to Winship from Wes' lifetime savings has evolved into a foundation that has awarded nearly \$1 million to investigators from around the world, including several gifts to Emory. Though the circumstances uniting Winship and the Smith family were not ideal, the relationship has certainly made a significant impact in cancer research. "We have this inextricable link between the Smiths and Emory," said Bill. "I'm humbled by the work the doctors do for us."



Wes Smith (right) is pictured with siblings Brittany and Sean. Sean and Bill, Wes' father, founded the When Everyone Survives foundation to fund leukemia research.

Patient and Family Create Lung Cancer Research Fund



Grace and Bill Maiola, center, are pictured with Drs. Suresh Ramalingam (left) and Fadlo Khuri. Bill is a lung cancer patient, and he and Grace started the Maiola Family Fund for Lung Cancer Research.

AFTER A LUNG CANCER DIAGNOSIS caught them by surprise, Bill and Grace Maiola quickly learned about the importance of innovative cancer research and the need for philanthropic support of such research. Through the creation of the Maiola Family Fund for Lung Cancer Research, Bill and Grace hope to aid the efforts of Winship's faculty as they continue the search for a cure.

During the course of his treatment, Bill has come to understand that Winship is on the verge of something important. "The physicians and researchers at Winship are on the cusp of remarkable breakthroughs, and there is an obvious and tangible need for pioneering research in lung cancer," he said. "We could not think of a better place to direct our philanthropic funds, as I truly believe that the unique and advanced research capabilities at Winship will continue to help patients like me."

Much of the Maiolas' motivation to support Winship so generously came from their primary physician, Fadlo, Khuri, MD. Khuri serves as Winship's deputy director, professor and chair in the Department of Hematology and Medical Oncology, and the Robert C. Goizueta distinguished chair in cancer research.

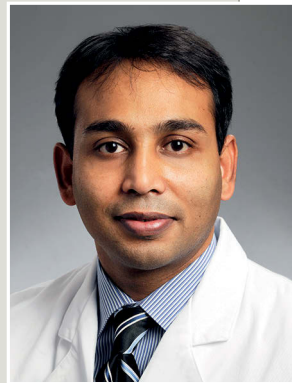
According to Bill, "Dr. Khuri has an incredible breadth of knowledge. He is truly a dedicated individual, and it is beyond evident that he has committed his professional life to making breakthrough advances in the treatment of cancer."

Dr. Khuri is confident that the Maiola Family Fund will result in more groundbreaking research. "Gifts from people like the Maiolas enable us to remain on the frontline in the fight against devastating diseases like lung cancer," he said. "Their contributions support cutting-edge research that is essential to obtain additional funding from the NIH, and we are genuinely grateful that Bill and Grace have put their trust in us with both his treatment and their donation."

Bill's former employer, The Coca-Cola Company, matched the family's initial gift. Now, the Maiolas are inviting their friends and family members to contribute to their named fund. "We know that we are dealing with the gold standard at Winship, and we would not be asking others to give if we did not feel complete confidence in the people here," Bill said.

Most importantly, the Maiolas take comfort in knowing that they are contributing to something worthwhile. "We are grateful for a lifetime of good fortune, and it is so gratifying to be able to turn around and pass that good fortune on to others," Grace said. "Supporting the doctors and researchers who will make new discoveries and change lives is a truly meaningful endeavor for us."

JUNIOR FACULTY SPOTLIGHT: *Ajay Nooka, MD, MPH*



AFTER COMPLETING HIS FELLOWSHIP at Winship, Ajay Nooka, MD, MPH, knew he wanted to continue his professional career here. Now, in his role as assistant professor in the Department of Hematology and Medical Oncology, Nooka is seeing patients with multiple myeloma and investigating advanced treatments for the disease.

As a physician-scientist, Nooka divides his time between treating patients in the clinic and creating a multiple myeloma database. This comprehensive database encompasses environmental and clinical data and has the abilities to merge with the tissue repository. To create such a large-scale database, he uses the knowledge he gained from completing his Doctor of Medicine degree at the Andhra Medical College in India, his Masters in Public Health at the University of Texas, and his residency at the Canton Medical Education Foundation to combine therapies for increased efficacy and to study the molecular epidemiology of myeloma.

Nooka was mentored by Sagar Lonial, MD, professor in the Department of Hematology and Medical Oncology, vice chair of

clinical affairs, and director of translational research for the B-Cell Malignancy Program at Winship. “We are fortunate to have Dr. Nooka, a stellar clinician and someone with the experience and knowledge to build this phenomenal database that we can use to define how to best treat patients,” Lonial said. “Having him and the database was something our program was really missing.”

Nooka firmly believes that such mentors are critical to his success in treating patients. “Sagar has been an incredible mentor since day one, as have many other physicians and scientists here. Winship provides all of the tools I need to effectively treat patients and research the disease, and the NCI designation attracts the best and brightest to serve as mentors for junior faculty like myself,” Nooka said.

“Winship is one of the best places I could possibly be,” he said. “The institution is constantly evolving and growing, and I am so glad to be a part of this incredible team.”

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