



Edward A. Frick

From The Chairman's Desk

The most productive use of cancer research dollars is the reaction

that you get when the

William Guy Forbeck Cancer Research Foundation is discussed by leading scientific researchers. This has been the emphasis of the foundation since it was founded in 1984. With over 1,000,000 people in the United States diagnosed with cancer each year, making cancer dollars more efficient is vital. We are beginning to understand the causes of cancer and to initiate new methods of prevention, diagnosis, and treatment. The "war on cancer" is far from being won, but some of the battles are beginning to turn our way.

This past year's forum addressed a key topic, "DNA Damage and Cancer Susceptibility Syndromes", and was chaired by *Dr. Alan D'Andrea* from Dana Farber Cancer Institute in Boston and *Prof. Dr. Jan Hoeijmakers* from the Erasmus University of Rotterdam (Netherlands). It was one of the best sessions ever. **The 2004 Forum** topic will focus on "Molecular Targets in Pediatric Malignancies" and will be chaired by *Gary Gilliland, PhD, MD* from Harvard University and *Charles L. Sawyers, MD* from UCLA.

In 1999 the foundation established the "Focus on the Future" program where grants are awarded to allow the recipients to hold meetings similar in content and format to the very successful annual Hilton Head Forums. The **2004 Focus grant** was awarded to *Charles Sklar, MD* from Memorial Sloan-

Kettering Cancer Center, to address the topic of "Fertility and Reproductive Issues in Survivors of Childhood Cancer."

Tom Geldermann has retired from the Forbeck Board of Trustees after 18 years. Tom was a tower of strength and a charter member of the foundation. He was one of the leaders in initiating the "Founding Sponsors" Program. This was essential for the initial funding of the foundation.

The Foundation is very enthused about the organization of a **Foundation Junior Board** by a group of young people in the Chicago area. Their first year was very impressive, and we congratulate them and thank them on their effort. We look forward to working with the Junior Board in the future.

Clear effective communication is one of the most valuable tools in fighting cancer. To enhance our communication, the foundation's **web site** at www.wgfrf.org is being updated and expanded by *Aaron Jesser* and Board of Trustee member *Terry Irmen*. In addition, the Foundation's video is being put on the web site.

We thank all of those who have supported the Foundation in the past and ask for your renewed assistance to maintain the momentum that has been established.

It is through your generous help that continued progress will be made.

Edward R. Frick
Chairman, Board of Trustees

SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY BOARD REPORT

To the Heart of the Matter

It was almost twenty years ago when I first met George and Jennifer Forbeck. I was working with a polymer chemist called



John T. Kenshead, PhD

John Ugelstad developing small magnetic beads for the removal of cancer cells from bone marrow. This clearly had clinical application and the technology is still used today. When we started this work we were focused on the treatment of children with neuroblastoma. Today, the technology is used in a variety of different settings, including the treatment of patients with autoimmune disease and those with severe heart conditions.

Chronic and acute heart disease causes damage to the heart muscle. Early clinical studies show that after the injection of blood progenitor cells into the area of the damaged

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2003 Forbeck Forum: XIXth Annual Forum

November 6–8, 2003 Hilton Head Island, South Carolina

Subject: DNA Damage & Cancer Susceptibility Syndromes

- I: DNA Repair I
- II: Damage Response & Checkpoints
- III: DNA Repair II
- IV: Chromosome Instability

Chairmen

Alan D'Andrea, MD	Dana Farber Cancer Institute	Boston, MA
Jan Hoeijmakers	Erasmus University	Rotterdam, Netherlands

Participants

Philip C. Hanawalt	Stanford University	Stanford, CA
Ian Hickson, PhD	Oxford Cancer Centre	Oxford, England
Steve Jackson, PhD	University of Cambridge	Cambridge, England
Hans Joenje, PhD	VU University Medical Centre	Amsterdam, Netherlands
Michael Kastan, MD PhD	St Jude Children's Research Hosp	Memphis, TN
Richard D. Kolodner, PhD	Univ of California at San Diego	La Jolla, CA
Tom A. Kunkel	National Inst of Health	Research Triangle Park, NC
John H. J. Petrini, PhD	Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Ctr	New York, NY
Gregory L. Verdine	Harvard University	Cambridge, MA
Jean Y. Wang, PhD	Univ of California, San Diego	La Jolla, CA
Stephen West, PhD	Cancer Research UK	Herts, England
Sam Wilson	National Inst of Health	Research Triangle Park, NC
Richard D. Wood, PhD, FRS	Univ of Pittsburgh Cancer Inst	Pittsburgh, PA
Michael B. Yaffe, MD, PhD	Massachusetts Inst of Technology	Cambridge, MA



Prof. Jan Hoeijmakers

"It was very useful and stimulating and the responses I had from various participants were uniformly positive and enthusiastic."



Alan D'Andrea, M.D.

2003 Overview

The important role that DNA damage plays in cancer development is illustrated by the clear connections between exposures to certain types of DNA damaging agents in the environment and the development of cancer, such as the links between cigarette smoking and lung cancer or sunlight exposure and skin cancer. In addition, the majority of inherited syndromes characterized to date that lead to increased cancer development in families result from inherited mutations in genes that are important for DNA damage responses. For example, inherited muta-

tions in either the *Brcal* or *p53* genes results in a very high risk of developing breast cancer and both of these gene products are important for helping cells respond to various types of DNA damage. The genes mutated in certain rare diseases that affect children, such as Fanconi's Anemia, Ataxia-telangiectasia, and Xeroderma Pigmentosum, all play roles in cellular responses to DNA damage and children with these diseases have very high incidences of certain cancers. Studies of the genes mutated in these diseases have led to a much better

understanding of how all cells respond to DNA damage and even more importantly to insights about how cancers develop. In addition, since radiation therapy and most chemotherapies used to treat cancer cause DNA damage, understanding how these gene products operate provides new ways to approach the treatment of cancer. The discussions at the forum will focus on how these gene products function, how they contribute to cancer development, and how they can be manipulated to improve cancer therapies.

Scientific Advisory Board Report

...Continued from Page 1

heart re-growth of blood vessels occurs. This, in turn, is thought to allow the regrowth of muscle cells into the area of damaged heart, giving clinical benefit to the patient. Following on from this work is the suggestion that the same blood progenitor cells can help in the regrowth of bone, in the regeneration of kidney cells and in the revascularization of the retina.

By now, you are probably thinking what has this to do with the Foundation's goal of helping in finding the cure for cancer. For me, the above paragraphs epitomize the very essence of the Foundation. A polymer chemist working with an immunologist brought about the development of the "beads" that are used for cell selection. Collaborations between hematologists and immunologist have introduced the technology into the treatment of patients with autoimmune disease. Cardiologists and ophthalmologists are now working with hematologists and scientists to introduce the technology into their fields of interest. These new developments have come about through two key factors. Time to allow the technology to mature in the clinic and communication to ensure that knowledge is spread and applied to different fields.

Enhanced communication is exactly what the Foundation is set up to do; create an environment to bring about the cross fertilization of ideas so that progress in the clinic can be made. We bring together scientists and clinicians who normally would not interact together and allow them to share their ideas and hopefully stimulate others in the audience to think differently about a particular problem. Our other mission is to pick topics that are likely to benefit from this approach and we believe we have been very successful in this over the years.

Billions of dollars are poured into trying to find a cure for cancer. Realistically the Foundation alone will never find that cure as its resources are small in comparison to the larger funding organizations. However, the contribution the Foundation makes to the field is far in excess of its resources as so few organizations focus on driving innovation through providing a forum for open and frank interactions between scientists and clinicians. Our success is mirrored by the talented individuals that are eager to come to the Foundation's annual meeting every year. The format of the Foundation is unique and long may it continue through your support. The Trustees and the advisory board thank each and every one of you for believing in the Foundation as we strive to deliver our contribution to finding a cure for such an insidious disease.



John T. Kemshead, PhD
Chairman, Scientific Advisory Board

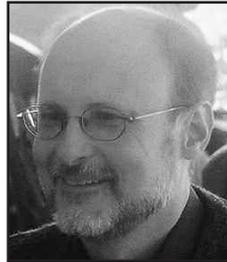


"The field of DNA damage and repair has developed so remarkably in the 40 years since I entered the field and co-discovered the process of excision-repair of DNA. It is timely that you are sponsoring this forum on DNA damage and cancer susceptibility syndrome."

Philip C. Hanawalt

"I came away with many new ideas, renewed inspiration, and ideas for some new contacts and collaborations."

Richard Wood, Ph.D., F.R.S.



"Thanks again for organizing the 2003 Forbeck Forum and for providing the right environment for an open exchange of scientific ideas. It was truly an enlightening experience for us all. Not only that, we came away with a whole bunch of new friends!"

Stephen C. West, Ph.D.

"I and the other participants were unanimous in our view that it ranked among the best conferences that we had ever attended. The format is excellent and I would encourage you to continue with such an innovative and productive format."

Ian Hickson, Ph.D.



"In addition to receiving an enormous number of new insights into the field of DNA repair, the meeting has paved the way for new collaborations between my research group and those of several other attendees. Moreover, the Forum strongly reinforced my conviction that the DNA damage and repair field has the potential to lead to better treatments for cancer. A prime goal for my career is to help realize this potential."

Steve Jackson, Ph.D.

"It was a truly wonderful and unique experience that is already having immediate impact on my further research."

Hans Joenje, PhD



GRANTS and AWARDS: “FOCUS on the FUTURE” PROGRAMS:

The William Guy Forbeck Research Foundation is pleased to sponsor two programs to further the advance of cancer research. The “Scholar Award” recognizes promising young scientists working in this field. “Focus meeting” grants are designed to give other researchers an opportunity to conduct their own meeting along the lines of the Foundation’s annual Forum. More information can be found on our web site at wgfrf.org.

The FORBECK SCHOLAR AWARD

The Foundation looks for outstanding clinician or post-doctoral fellows with an interest in cancer research. Award recipients are invited to attend the Foundation Forum held in November in Hilton Head Island, South Carolina. A \$1,000 contribution is made to each award recipient’s institution. Nominations are made by letter of recommendation from the applicant’s director of studies, including a short synopsis of the applicant’s research interest and a brief explanation of why this individual is recommended. Nominations are due in the spring of each year.

FOCUS MEETING GRANTS

The activities of the Foundation have been expanded by offering grants to support small “Focus Meetings” to be modeled on the annual Forum held in Hilton Head. The significant variation is that this forum is proposed and organized outside the Foundation and is based on a competitive application process. The Foundation is interested in sponsoring small interactive meetings that focus on developing strategies which will improve our understanding of cancer and cancer therapeutics, and where there is a clear interchange of ideas between scientists and clinicians. Applicants identify a topic, venue, date, and take responsibility for organizing the meeting.



2003 Scholars with Forum chairmen. Norman Sharpless, Elisa Flores, James Amatruda, Alan D’Andrea, Jan Hoeijmaker

2003 SCHOLAR AWARD

The Foundation received a number of very qualified applications for the 2003 Forbeck Scholar Award. The Scientific Advisory Board selected four outstanding young scientists to attend the 2003 Forum and receive this award. The Foundation was pleased to present this year’s Scholar Award to the following candidates:

James F. Amatruda, MD, PhD is a clinical associate at Massachusetts General Hospital and an instructor in medicine at Harvard Medical School. He was nominated by *Dr. Bruce Chabner* who said “He was one of our best clinical fellows and has since proven to be a scientist of outstanding potential.” Jim’s research interest has involved developing the zebrafish as a model system for identifying cancer-causing mutations. Several of the interesting genes he has discovered appear related to DNA damage repair and cell cycle arrest.



Christopher Bakkenist, PhD

received his medical education in the UK, then moved to St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital in 1999 to work on DNA Repair and signal transduction. Chris’ research work has resulted in the identification of the ionizing radiation-induced phosphorylation site in the ATM protein. He has also performed a broad array of biochemical experiments that demonstrated that activation of the ATM kinase occurs via intermolecular autophosphorylation with kinetics and stoichiometry. In his letter of nomination,

Dr. Michael Kasten said “the most exciting aspect of Chris’ recent successes are the ramifications of this work for future studies.”

Elsa Flores, PhD received her undergraduate degree in chemical engineering at MIT, and her PhD in Oncology at the University of Wisconsin. She is currently a post-doctoral fellow in the MIT Center for Cancer Research. *Dr. Tyler Jacks* says “Elsa’s current research and future plans are innovative and highly likely to yield additional key information about the role of p53 and the related proteins p63 and p73 in controlling the cellular response to DNA damage and in the prevention of tumor formation. I believe that Elsa has the critical combination of intelligence, creativity, drive and technical ability to develop into a leader in molecular oncology.”

Norman Sharpless, MD was described by *Dr. Ronald DePinho* as being “a complete package - great guy, extraordinary scientist, and competent and caring physician.” He completed his post-doctoral training in *Dr. DePinho’s* lab at Dana Farber Cancer Institute and is currently an assistant professor of Medicine and Genetics at the University of North Carolina School of Medicine. Ned has worked on several projects including the p16INK4a specific knockout, where he recognized and uncovered an unexpected and intimate link between environmental carcinogens and p16INK4a silencing. He also studied the importance of NHEJ in provoking cytogenetic changes in pediatric tissue tumors, observing that diminished NHEJ activity can provoke chromosomal aberrations and drive the development of soft tissue tumors in mice.

2003 FOCUS MEETING SUMMARY REPORT:

The New Biology of Enigmatic Neuroblastoma and Relevant Treatment Strategies

The 2003 Focus meeting was organized by *Moritz M. Ziegler, M.D.*, formerly from the Harvard Medical School. It was held March 22 and 23 at the Westin Copley Place Hotel, Boston, Massachusetts. *For the complete summary, please see the Foundation web site at www.wgfrf.org.*



*"I envision a significantly enhanced series of collaborative projects to have sprung from these discussions, all aimed at enhancing our knowledge of neuroblastoma and eventually effecting its cure."
Moritz Ziegler, MD*

Signaling Mediators and their Receptors:

Fundamental mechanisms of signaling under intense study in neuroblastoma continue to explore those pathways that might contribute to our understanding of the enigmatic behavior of this tumor, where on the one hand it is characterized by aggressive growth, resistant to many conventional anticancer therapies while on the other hand it can spontaneously, or in response to therapy, undergo maturation into a benign phenotype or even undergo a regression characterized by disappearance. *Michael P. LaQuaglia, M.D.* (Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center) addressed the use of histone deacetylase (HDAC) inhibitors as a potential novel anti-neuroblastoma therapy. *Dai H. Chung, M.D.* (Univ/Texas, Galveston) described the relationship of gastrointestinal hormones to neural crest tumors that produce vasoactive intestinal peptide (VIP), gastrin and somatostatin. In related work, *Dr. Chung* has also studied the antitumor activity of the benzquinone ansamycin antibiotic geldanamycin (GA), an agent that decreases the viability of neuroblastoma cells and increases apoptotic cell death. *Garrett M. Brodeur, M.D.* (Children's Hosp of Philadelphia) described an update of his ongoing work that has defined the regulatory role of the neurotrophins on neuroblastoma growth. *Thomas H. Inge, M.D., Ph.D.* (Cincinnati Children's Hosp Medical Center) described studies of the novel anthracycline antibiotic analog of doxorubi-



cin (Dox) WP744. *Jeff C. Hoebner, M.D., Ph.D.* (Johns Hopkins Univ) described the microenvironment of neuroblastomas focusing on the hypoxic tumor cell that proliferates poorly and is more prone to resistance to both chemotherapy and radiotherapy.

Gene Analysis and Therapy:

Jed G. Nuchtern, M.D. (Baylor College of Medicine) reported on work that has focused on the helix loop helix nuclear transcription factor MYCN, a protein whose amplification is linked to the malignant neuroblastoma phenotype.



*"The quality of the presentations and the discussions was unprecedented in my experience. Through the meeting I was able to develop several ideas and to reorganize my approach in ways that will definitely help my research."
Jed Nuchtern*

Though *Akita Nakagawara, M.D., Ph.D.* (Chiba Cancer Center Research Inst, Japan) was unable to attend, he submitted a summary of his recent application of comprehensive genomics to the study of neuroblastoma. *Andrew Davidoff, M.D.* (St. Jude Children's Research Hosp) reported on the application of gene therapy for the antiangiogenic therapy of neuroblastoma utilizing an adeno associated virus vector. Interestingly, in an effort to further enhance anti-tumor activity, an increased dose of vector and transgene was administered, and a paradoxical acceleration of tumor growth was observed. *Dr. M. Judah Folkman*, (Harvard Medical School) commented that this was the classic dose-response "U-shaped curve" seen with other angiogenesis inhibitors and their anti-tumor activity, and that *Dr. Davidoff* has now demonstrated this phenomenon at the gene level. *A. Thomas Look, M.D.* (Harvard Medical School) described his research into the genetics of neuroblastoma using the novel zebra fish model.

Immunology and Immunotherapy:

Edward M. Barksdale, Jr., M.D. (Univ/Pittsburgh) presented his ongoing work of dendritic cell therapies for advanced neuroblastoma. *Anthony Sandler, M.D.* (Univ/Iowa) hypothesized that an effective neuroblastoma vaccine strategy would target and directly stimulate signaling pathways that would further amplify tumor antigen-specific immune responses. *James Geiger, M.D.* (Univ/Michigan) reported on his efforts to translate dendritic cell therapy to the clinical realm.

"Dr. Ziegler did an outstanding job in organizing the conference and bringing together a truly unique group of pediatric surgeons who are attempting to impact this disease, not just with their surgical skills but with a significant investment in their research activities."

James Geiger

Angiogenesis and Angiogenesis Inhibition:

Yoshiaki Tsuchida, M.D., Ph.D. (Gunma Univ, Japan) reported the effects of intermittent versus continuous infusion recombinant human endostatin therapy in a human neuroblastoma xenograft model in nude mice. *Elizabeth A. Beierle, M.D.* (Univ/Florida) reported on the investigation of the regulation of apoptosis, particularly focusing on vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF) as a putative effector of neuroblastoma apoptosis. *Jessica Kandel, M.D.* (Columbia Univ, New York) also has studied angiogenesis inhibition as a potential anti-cancer therapy for neuroblastoma.



"All of us felt energized by the discussions. Even more, we were able to explore the possibility of multiple fruitful collaborations. I wish we could do this every year, and am hopeful that somehow (given the introduction that you've made possible) we will manage it."

Jessica Kandel

2004 Forum: Targeted Therapies in Pediatric Malignancies

The Forbeck Foundation Forum in the year 2004 will be co-chaired by *Charles Sawyer* from University of California at Los Angeles, and *Gary Gilliland*, Howard Hughes Medical Institute and Brigham & Women's Hospital, Harvard Medical School. The theme for the forum will be "Targeted therapies in Pediatric Malignancies." This topic pertains to the new quest of utilizing molecular and genetic information about cancer to specifically design treatments which target functionally important molecular lesions. In the past several decades enormous quantities of information have accumulated regarding the precise mutations which either activate or disrupt genes in many human cancers. In some cases this information has permitted new classification of cancers, and the molecular abnormalities have become central to the diagnosis of specific tumors. While large strides have been made in the identification of gene abnormalities in cancer, therapeutic advances have not been as forthcoming. This stems largely from the fact that traditional cancer therapies have been employed prior to a complete understanding of the mechanisms through which they work or the cellular targets which they attack. The "Targeted Therapy" concept stems from the goal of developing cancer treatments which specifically focus on disrupting molecules within cancer cells which are known to be central to the malignant behavior of the cell. Such targets have included activated oncogenes such as Abl, a factor whose inhibition by the drug Gleevec has produced dramatic remissions in certain forms of leukemia. The discussion at this Forum will focus both on the identification of targets as well as in strategies to design drugs capable of inhibiting them in order to convert the information learned about cancer into therapeutic advances.

2005 Forum: Innovations in Imaging in Cancer Research

The diagnosis and treatment of cancer has changed dramatically in the past two decades as advances in medical science have revealed the causes of cancer at the molecular level. This understanding has provided new targets for drug discovery, new approaches to evaluation of high-risk patients, and methods for early detection of cancer. In parallel, and at times as a result of these basic advances, the ability to image cancer in the living organism has also undergone a revolutionary change. Magnetic resonance imaging is able to disclose detailed pictures of small tumor deposits, and in the experimental setting, can even reveal important aspects of the composition and biochemical activity of tissues. PET (Positron Emission Tomography) has likewise become a standard tool for detecting minute tumor deposits and revealing their active metabolism. While these two techniques have had great impact, there is already evidence that more sophisticated and novel uses of both will be possible, allowing the clinical researcher to extract from pictures the kind of information that was only obtainable by removal of tissue and examination in the laboratory.

The Forbeck Conference planned for 2005, will be led by *Ralph Weissleder* and *Harvey Herschman*, two international leaders in this field. The conference will convene a group of experts in the new imaging technologies, including methods that image receptors, biochemical reactions, and drug effects in the living subject, literally the equivalent of Jules Verne's trip 20,000 Leagues into the human body. Fluorescence imaging, radio labeled drug trafficking, ferro-magnetic particle localization, infra red spectroscopy and other technologies used to find and destroy cancer will be included in this outstanding program, as well.

WEB SITE - www.wgfrf.org

The Foundation web site contains general information, a summary article on each of the Forums organized by the Foundation, information about "Focus on the Future" awards and grants, Junior Board activities, and several web site "pointers" for more information on cancer.

2004 "FOCUS MEETING" GRANT AWARDED

In the 7th year of the Focus program, the Foundation Scientific Advisory Board reviewed grant applications and awarded the grant to *Charles Sklar, MD*. (Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center).

Fertility and Reproductive Issues in Survivors of Childhood Cancer

Advances in the treatment of childhood cancer, including combination chemotherapy, radiation therapy, surgery, and stem cell transplantation have resulted in markedly improved survival rates for many patient-groups. Currently, the overall five- year survival rate is in excess of 70%. However, with these advancements, cancer survivors now face the long-term consequences of treatment with intensive, multimodality therapies. Impaired fertility and compromised reproductive function are, unfortunately, common sequelae for both men and women exposed to chemotherapy, surgery, and/or radiation. Understandably, infertility may have profound psychological effects on survivors, particularly as they reach young adulthood. The risk of infertility varies considerably and is influenced by a variety of factors such as age and sex of the subject, type and dose of chemotherapy, and dose and field of radiation. Such uncertainty only intensifies and complicates the already difficult tasks all young individuals face as they mature: forming intimate relationships, having a family, and embarking on a career. Critical gaps currently exist in our understanding of the basic mechanisms involved in chemotherapy- and radiation-induced germ cell loss.

Options for preserving or protecting fertility prior to the initiation of cancer therapy are quite limited. For sexually mature males, cryopreservation of semen is well established and effective. Transposition of the ovaries out of the radiation field is also a viable strategy for the small number of females who require only focal abdominal-pelvic irradiation. However, for pre- and peri-pubertal individuals of both sexes and most sexually mature females, few if any proven options exist. Recently, harvesting and cryopreservation of ovarian tissue has become technically feasible. Cryopreservation of immature male testicular tissue or germ cells remain a theoretical possibility. While the data to date do not indicate a significant increase in birth defects or cancer in offspring of cancer survivors conceived by natural means, the long-term risks to the offspring conceived using the newer techniques of assisted reproduction are as yet unknown.

We find ourselves at a critical juncture in the area of fertility and cancer survivors. Rapid advances in basic biology and various reproductive technologies mean that in the very near future new treatment options will become available for both fertility preservation and restoration. While such innovations offer exciting new alternatives for our patients, they also raise very serious health and ethical concerns. Collaboration and cross-talk between clinicians (medicine, pediatrics, psychology, bioethics), basic scientists (molecular biologists, cell biologists, animal scientists), and epidemiologists (population statistics) are essential if we are to move forward in ways that are scientifically sound, medically safe, and ethically grounded. A Forbeck Symposium would be an ideal setting for such discussions and interchanges.

2003 FINANCIAL REPORT

The accounting firm of Cherry, Bekaert and Holland audits the Foundation's financial records annually.

The Foundation has established a very sound financial position. Steady growth in income has allowed the Foundation to expand its program, primarily through the funding of "Focus" grants. The Trustees continue to aim at a very high mark - that 90% of the total expense goes directly to support scientific programs.

BASIS OF SUPPORT

The William Guy Forbeck Research Foundation desires and has a broad base of support. Of major significance to the Foundation are the contributions from many individuals and their families. Many people have chosen to use the Foundation as a fitting memorial gift. A number of corporations and other foundations have also supported the Foundation with contributions, some having very rigorous qualifications for grants.

In 2003, the newly organized Junior Board raised almost \$37,000 through fund raising events and contributions. Significant income in 1997-2001 was due to the 5-year pledge of support of the Homefront Bike Tour.

EXPENSES

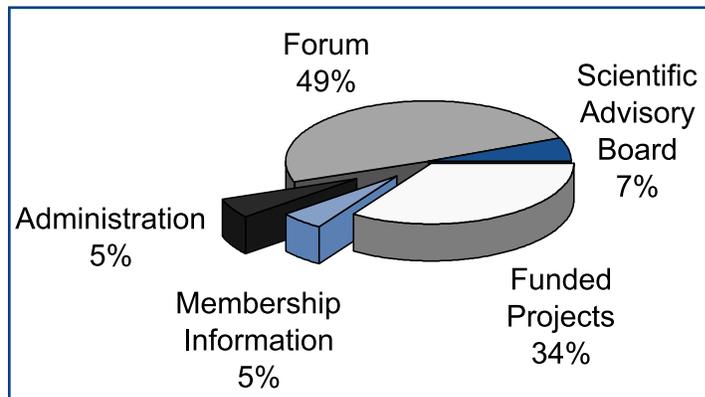
Historically, 85%-90% of the total expenses go directly to supporting the annual Forum and Foundation projects.

Membership information costs include the annual newsletter, member mailings, and the video.

The Foundation has no paid employees, and the trustees participate at their own expense. Administration expenses include auditing costs, as well as printing and postage expense.

Members of the Scientific Advisory Board attend the Forum meeting in Hilton Head and hold their annual meeting at that time. The SAB provides the technical direction for the Forum and the Foundation.

Projects funded during 2003 include four Scholar Awards and one Focus meeting grant.



1ST YEAR a HUGE SUCCESS for FOUNDATION'S JUNIOR BOARD



Left to right, back: Aaron Jesser, Mollie Ring, Bridgid Kyle, Brie Torborst, Jamie Forbeck. front: Lisa Hoffman, Charlotte Dimberg.

In early spring of 2003, a group of young professionals in Chicago gathered to form a "Junior Board" for the William Guy Forbeck Research Foundation. Those involved in the planning for the Junior Board included *Brendan Cashman, Renee E. Dahlstrom, Chandler Dimberg, Charlotte Dimberg, Donna Davis, Jamie Forbeck, Jean Gallucci, Mike Goetsch, Mark Hatch, Lisa Hoffman, Aaron Jesser, John Lehman, Nicole Mazzei, Glenn Pankau, Mollie Ring, Alex Ross, Annie Ross, Demetri Sibbing, and Ryan Vaile.*

In very organized fashion, they began by defining their mission and goals:

Junior Board Mission

- To increase awareness of the foundation, its purpose, goals and progress
- To involve a younger generation that will bring fresh energy to the foundation and ensure its future
- To develop a young group whose goal will be to support the younger generation of scientists.
- Fundraising will go towards scholarships, grants and the inclusion of scholars in the yearly meetings and focus meetings around the world.

Junior Board Goals

- To sponsor and organize events to raise money for the scientific scholar programs
- To continue to involve young energetic people in the foundation
- To continue creating new legacies surrounding the foundation and educate the next generation.

Fall Fest 2003

They next put their energy to work in organizing a fund raising event to benefit the Foundation. In October, 2003 the Junior Board held "Fall Fest" in Lake Geneva, Wisconsin.

They recruited five sponsors to provide the seed money for the event, *Dalco Metals, Inc, Richard Driehaus, Geneva Investments, Abbey Springs Country Club, and Trisha Forbeck of Keefe Real Estate.*

The evening included food and beverages, music by the *Weed Street Band*, and a live auction, silent auction and raffles. Many contributed items for the auctions, which included a weekend in New York, Bulls and Blackhawks Sky Boxes, Luncheon for 20 at the Driehaus Estate, a cabin in Galena for a weekend, a Hilton Head vacation, a Fishing Charter in Palm Beach, Toshiba TVs, a Steamboat Ski vacation, a Belize vacation, a 24' Thompson boat, and an afternoon of sailing with Buddy Melges, and many more items.

"The significance of the purpose of the Foundation really hit home when cancer struck a family member this year. I



am honored to be a Junior Board member and contributing in my own small way to the terrific work of the Forbeck organization." Mollie Ring

The many who attended were unanimous that it was a wonderful evening. With the efforts of Junior Board members and the many contributions, the evening netted over \$28,000 for the Foundation.

JUNIOR BOARD LOOKING FOR HELP

- Anyone interested in joining the Junior Board
- People interested in working on Fall Fest
- Auction items for Fall Fest

Contact
the Junior Board
or the Foundation

Plans for Fall Fest 2004

The Junior Board is working on plans for a repeat of their Fall Fest. *Charlotte Dimberg* is the event chairman, and *Brie Torborst* leads the auction/raffle committee. It is tentatively scheduled for October 2nd at the Abbey Springs clubhouse. Members are currently working on items for the auction, and would love to hear from anyone willing to contribute something for this purpose.

Tickets will go on sale this summer, and can be purchased by contacting the junior board, ordering on the web site, or responding to the Fall Fest mailing.

"I am very honored to be part of Junior Board, especially the success after our first event. The foundation has a deeper meaning to me and also other board



members, because we all have personal relationships with the Forbeck Family and some of us have memories of Billy. The success of the first event shows that all the Junior Board members are dedicated and truly believe in the time that they are putting towards the foundation. Looking forward to succeed year after year." Charlotte Dimberg

Trustees Express Enthusiasm and Support for Junior Board

At the November annual meeting of Trustees, *Jamie Forbeck* presented the mission and goals of the Junior Board, their Financial statement to date, and reviewed their activities. Earlier in the year, the Junior Board had set up their own checking account as an account of the Foundation, under the supervision of Trustee and Foundation Treasurer *Monty Laffitte*. Junior Board member *Chandler Dimberg* had done an outstanding job in maintain the books and preparing the financial statement for the Junior Board.

"Nothing can be more fitting than having our scholars supported primarily through the efforts of the Junior Board."

*John Kemshead,
Chairman, Scientific
Advisory Board*

"While we all hoped and prayed — and still do — for a quick and effective cure and preventive for cancer, we knew deep in our hearts that it was going to be a long and challenging road. The addition of next generation members to the Board of Trustees and the formation of the Junior Board puts the Forbeck Foundation in excellent position for the long haul."

Sam Irmen, Trustee

Trustees were extremely enthusiastic about the Junior Board program. Resolutions were passed making the Junior Board an official "committee" of the Foundation, and approving their program. The Trustees expressed their hope that the Junior Board would be a source for the future leadership of the Foundation.

At the request of the Trustees, Jamie would go back to the Junior Board and ask them to elect a chairman and officers to represent the Junior Board. In response, the Junior Board elected *Jamie Forbeck* to the job of Chairman, and as a trustee of the Foundation, would represent the Junior Board at Foundation Trustee meetings, and *Chandler Dimberg* was elected Vice Chair and Treasurer. *Mollie Ring* is in charge of correspondence, and *Aaron Jesser* set up and maintains the web page.



"Being part of this board is special to me because of my childhood friendship with Billy Guy. Raising money to fight childhood cancer is something I can do to help others in Billy Guy's memory."

Chandler Dimberg



"Richard Driehaus and the entire company's support of the Foundation was truly touching. It is a unique work environment that pulls together so much to support a cause important to one of their co-workers."

Jamie Forbeck

Driehaus selects Foundation to Celebrate his Birthday

Every year, *Richard Driehaus* selects a charitable organization to be honored on his birthday. Any employees of *Driehaus Capital Management* who wish to honor Mr. Driehaus on his birthday, may make a contribution to the selected organization. Mr. Driehaus then matches the total contributions.

In 2003, Mr. Driehaus happened to be talking to one of his employees, trustee *Jamie Forbeck*. She told him about the Foundation, and the newly organized Junior Board.

We are honored that Mr. Driehaus chose the Foundation to be the beneficiary of his 2003 birthday gift. Mr. Driehaus and his employees made an \$8,800 contribution to the Foundation.

How to Contact the Junior Board

- *The Junior Board has its own page on the Foundation web site at www.wgfrf.org*
- *An email can be sent to jrboard@wgfrf.org*
- *Contact any Junior Board member*

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In the early years of the Foundation, each of the Founding Sponsors made a commitment for \$5,000 per year for five years. These pledges provided a stable financial basis for the Foundation and allowed efforts to be concentrated on establishing the Foundation and organizing programs.

*In grateful acknowledgement of our donors...
(from January, 2003 thru March, 2004)*

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Tom Geldermann Retires From Board of Trustees



Tom Geldermann's letter of resignation was so outstanding, wonderful and warm, we wish to share it with everyone. Tom was one of the founding trustees of the Foundation, serving since 1984. From the beginning, he organized fundraising, and was responsible for bringing the Foundation finances from nothing, to a position that has allowed us to continue and expand the Foundation programs. We will miss Tom's thoughtful and dedicated participation at regular meetings of the trustees, although we are sure to ask for his thoughts as he moves to the position of Emeritus Trustee.

It is with a sense of deep regret, true appreciation and fond memories that I tender my resignation from the Board of Trustees of the Foundation.

It seems like only yesterday that the sad occasion of Billy Guy's passing brought us together for a noble purpose that few thought would succeed.

Together we proved the pessimists wrong. What a privilege it was to be one of the founders. That privilege continues to this day as the Foundation grows in recognition and stature.

I was overwhelmed when you gave me the job of fundraiser. My experience was zero and we existed on hand to mouth contributions. I remember the luncheon with George and Bobby. We were idly talking of fundraising in general and the idea of selling chairs came up. I think that George had the original idea but he insisted that it was mine. We all know how well that idea worked. It gave us the momentum we needed, so I don't mind taking the credit.

The first session was memorable, indeed. I can remember the trustees anxiously waiting word of how the scientists would feel about sharing information. The results were far beyond our wildest expectations and the foundation was off and running. We have never looked back.

The Foundation will always be a part of me. A part that is above all other experiences. Thank you for including me in the beginning. My thoughts and prayers will be with you always.

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In Appreciation



Our heartfelt thanks go to all the people who have worked to make the activities of the Foundation a success.

We are grateful to the Scientific Advisory Board and the Forum participants, the scientists and clinicians whose leadership and effort are the front line in the war against Cancer.

Our special appreciation goes to the Foundation trustees and volunteers whose thoughtfulness, time and energy have done so much for the success of the Foundation and the Forums.

Most importantly, our thanks go to the hundreds of donors, individuals, businesses and foundations, whose financial support assures our continued work in Cancer research.

Sincere Thanks,

George and Jennifer Forbeck

Objectives

- The objective of the William Guy Forbeck Research Foundation is to promote advances in the field of oncology, particularly pediatric oncology.
- While the foundation may provide grants for pilot research studies and educational efforts, its centerpiece activity will be an annual scientific roundtable held at Hilton Head Island, South Carolina.
- Attending each year will be up to twelve physicians and scientists who will meet in a completely private "think tank" environment, where they can exchange ideas freely in the hope of building on each other's ideas, knowledge, and experience.
- The objective is not to discuss published research, but rather to provide a forum for the cross fertilization of ideas, concepts, and observations. The hope is to shorten the cancer research timetable.
- Participants will be invited on the recommendation of the Foundation's Scientific Advisory Board, a distinguished panel of medical scientists.

It is through your generous support that continuing research in the field of childhood cancer can be ensured. Contributions are tax deductible for federal IRS purposes. The IRS file number is 580063499. For additional information please fax: (843) 837-3088, visit our web site www.wgfrf.org or write: William Guy Forbeck Research Foundation, 23 Peninsula Drive, Hilton Head Island, South Carolina 29926