

OCTOBER 1985

## THE JOSEPH S. STAUFFER CHAIR IN CANCER RESEARCH

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Through a grant of \$1,000,000 from the Stauffer Estate, a Chair to stimulate basic research in the field of neoplastic diseases is proposed. Queen's University is considered highly suitable for such a Chair which will provide an especially important stimulus to current and future programs of cancer research at the University.

The Chair shall be designated the "Joseph S. Stauffer Chair in Cancer Research" and the incumbent shall be designated the "Joseph S. Stauffer Research Professor of Pathology". It is understood that the incumbent shall devote his or her efforts to basic research in the field of neoplastic diseases, free from an expectation to undertake substantial undergraduate teaching responsibilities, but the incumbent is expected to supervise graduate students and to lecture in fields of special interest.

The yield of the endowment of \$1,000,000 shall be used to support the salary of the incumbent; the residue shall be used, as may from time to time be determined by the University, to support the incumbent's research or to increase the capital sum.

To assure the necessary standing and ongoing importance of the Chair, the incumbent to be selected should normally have

achieved tenure at Queen's or another university, and should have established a distinguished academic reputation.

In order to provide flexibility and the capacity over time to adapt the work and focus of the Chair to changing priorities in the field of cancer research, it is proposed that the terms of appointment of the incumbent should normally be on a five year renewable basis. The incumbent would be granted tenure. Should the appointment to the Research Chair not be renewed at the end of the term, it is intended that the incumbent would be offered a conventional academic appointment at the same rank within the Department of Pathology -- or another suitable department.

Appointments and re-appointments shall be made by the Principal on the recommendation of a committee to be named by the Dean of Medicine under the chairmanship of the Head of the Department of Pathology.

The incumbent shall be clearly identified in University publications including calendars and relevant letterheads. In any professional articles or books published over the term of appointment to the Chair, the incumbent shall be identified as the Joseph S. Stauffer Research Professor of Pathology.

THE GERMAIN CANCER RESEARCH FUND

FACULTY OF MEDICINE

QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY

1. The Germain Cancer Research Fund is derived from monies donated by Mr. Arthur W. M. Germain, Kingston.
2. The funds are to be used for the support of cancer research in the Faculty of Medicine, Queen's University. Both capital and accrued interest may be expended.
3. The funds will initially be used for the rebuilding of the Cancer Research Group in the Department of Pathology. To this end, the funds may be used for the recruitment of suitable new members of faculty who will expend 75% or more of their time in the Cancer Research Group. Support will be available for a maximum of three years, during which time it is expected that other salary support will be found.
4. In the event that the funds are not utilized for support of new faculty, they may be used for:
  - a) purchase of equipment;
  - b) provision of special facilities not ordinarily provided through operating grants.
5. The fund will be administered by the Dean of the Faculty of Medicine on the advice of the Associate Dean of Research and the Head of the Department of Pathology.
6. The Terms of Reference will be reviewed in three years and adapted as required to changing circumstances in a manner consistent with the wishes of the donor.

25 July 1985

19 April, 1985

CANCER RESEARCH DIVISION  
DEPARTMENT OF PATHOLOGY  
QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY

I. History of the Cancer Research Group and Description of its Facilities

The Cancer Research Division of the Department of Pathology at Queen's University had its origin in the appointment in 1968 of two research scholars supported by the National Cancer Institute of Canada. A third investigator was appointed in 1971.

Following an on-site review and a detailed analysis of the program in 1972, the N.C.I.C. agreed to provide group status to the division. This was in recognition of the well defined goals and close collaboration among the investigators, and provided core support for secretarial and other services not normally available from regular operating grants.

In 1975 there was a on-site visit of representatives of the Canadian Cancer Society and the National Institute of Canada. After careful study, it was recommended and subsequently approved that a capital grant of \$400,000 be made by the Ontario Division of the Canadian Cancer Society to Queen's University for the provision of research space for the group. This occurred at a time when Botterell Hall was under construction, and by October 1978, approximately 6,000 feet of new space of excellent quality was created for the use of the group for cancer research and teaching.

From the inception of the group until 1979, Dr. Nathan Kaufman, the Head of the Department of Pathology, served as its co-ordinator. From 1979 to 1982 Dr. David M. Robertson succeeded Dr. Kaufman as Department Head, and as co-ordinator. Since 1983 Dr. Robert S. Kerbel, the Senior Investigator of the group served in this capacity.

The present members of the group are Drs. Kerbel, Bruce Elliott, Alain Lagarde, and James Dennis. The direct operating support for the group from the National Cancer

Institute of Canada in 1984/85 is \$372,793, and from the Medical Research Council, \$172,309. The success of the group in obtaining these large research grants is evidence of the recognition of the quality of the work by their peers. The research work has concentrated in recent years on mechanisms by which tumor cells escape from the normal immune surveillance mechanisms of the host, and by which tumor cells are able to successfully metastasize and grow in other sites of the body. During the last 5 years the group has published 90 papers in refereed scientific journals, and has made numerous presentations, many of them invited, at scientific meetings.

Unfortunately the success and international reputation of the group has been the cause of our difficulties. In 1984, the newly established Research Institute at Mount Sinai Hospital, Toronto, was successful in recruiting 3 of the investigators, including Dr. Kerbel to develop a new Cancer Research Unit. Dr. Elliott has elected to stay at Queen's to assist in the rebuilding of the division.

It is the intention of the Department of Pathology to rebuild the Cancer Research Division and when appropriate to re-establish a formal N.C.I.C group. In discussions with the N.C.I.C., they have encouraged us to proceed and have indicated their willingness to consider the status when the appropriate individuals have been recruited and programs established.

As further evidence of N.C.I.C. support, approximately 80% of the research equipment purchased by the N.C.I.C. for the group, but owned by the N.C.I.C., will be retained so that much of the equipment required for sophisticated cancer research is on-site. This includes a fluorescence activated cell sorter, a high pressure liquid chromatography unit and heavy equipment such as units for detecting both alpha and gamma radiation and ultracentrifuges. Well designed laboratory space with facilities for cell culturing, a high level biohazard room and specifically designed animal breeding facilities are also available. The latter was built with support from the Medical Research Council and a Terry Fox Award. In addition several of the



skilled technologists now employed in the laboratory may remain in Kingston, and could be re-employed when funds are available.

Peripheral support is also available in the form of cancer related activity in other departments. The Departments of Biology and Pediatrics have an extremely active human genetics group whose activities directly compliment cancer research. The Department of Biochemistry is conducting research at an international level utilizing recombinant DNA technology. Similar technologies are being used in the Department of Microbiology investigating aspects of virology. In the same department the facilities and expertise are available for research and the preparation of monoclonal antibodies. At a more clinical level the National Cancer Institute of Canada Clinical Trials Center is based in Kingston as is an Ontario Cancer Treatment and Research Foundation Clinic and Clinical Research Unit. This same unit also has a radiation oncology facility and several of the Queen's based hematologists are actively practicing medical oncology. Thus the Cancer Research Group in the Department of Pathology is in a unique position to provide an excellent bridge between the basic and clinic aspects of Cancer Research at Queen's.

Thus space, equipment, peripheral support and opportunities for collaborative research are all in place, only the human element is missing in relation to the Cancer Research Group.

## II. The Problem and Solution.

When a director or any other member of the group leaves, their supporting funds (i.e. career scientist awards) are transferred along with the individual, leaving no position open for new recruitment. The present group is therefore in an extremely vulnerable position despite the excellent space, facilities and research environment. An infusion of funds is therefore needed to create a permanent position.

Due to severe financial constraints there is no opportunity for funding from

University or government sources. The N.C.I.C., very generous in its support of space and equipment, nevertheless has been clear in its stand that it expects Queen's to obtain funds for the permanent scientist's position. Money from special fund raising drives such as the Terry Fox special initiatives program is clearly ear-marked for new programs and cannot be utilized for on-going core programs. The solution to the problem is a permanently funded Chair of cancer research.

In developing a strategy for the redevelopment of the division (with a permanently funded position) the first priority is to recruit a senior internationally known well established investigator in the cancer field who will work with the Department and Faculty to recruit new investigators and re-establish a strong research and teaching base. It should be recognised that a successful recruitment will have a multiplier effect. It will serve as a focus to bring in additional research funds as well as people. Furthermore an active center attracts first class students who by their very standing are then able to compete effectively for research scholarships and studentships. To attract an established investigator of this caliber will require the University to be in a position to offer a tenured professorship with appropriate income. As well it is likely that there will be a need for equipment not now available and internal operating support during the period of establishment. It has been the recommendation of the Department of Pathology that the university develop such an appointment at the earliest possible time. We have informally looked at the Canadian situation and believe there are suitable individuals in other institutions who would be attracted by an appropriate offer.

It is probable that other individuals recruited to the group will be supported by scholarships and associateships from the N.C.I.C or the Medical Research Council; in fact, individuals not capable of obtaining such competitive support which will probably be inappropriate appointments. It is possible as well that 2 or more individuals now on campus in other departments but working in the cancer field might

choose to join the group.

In summary the Department of Pathology is committed to the redevelopment of the Cancer Research Division. This commitment is entirely in keeping with the faculty commitment to Cancer Research which is vigorously pursued in several other departments at both basic and clinical levels and among which a great deal of collaboration has occurred in the past. Adequate space, laboratory equipment and environment is already in place. Support for the leader of the division is critical for the redevelopment of the Cancer Research Group.

Copies of existing grants and reprints of the groups publications will be provided if requested.



### CANCER RESEARCH GROUP

The Cancer Research Group in the Department of Pathology was established in 1972 after an On Site Visit from the National Cancer Institute.

At that time the original members of the Group were:-

Dr. J.C. Kennedy

Dr. J.S. Haskill

Dr. R. Mankovitz

These three individuals were in the department and supported by the National Cancer Institute prior to the official formation of the Group.

Dr. Kaufman was appointed the Group Co-Ordinator.

On July 31, 1973, Dr. Haskill left the department to join the McGill Cancer Unit.

In July 1977 Dr. J.C. Kennedy transferred his full time appointment to become an Associate Professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology. He became a Research Associate of the Ontario Cancer Treatment and Research Foundation. However, he continued to hold a joint appointment in the Department of Pathology on a sessional part-time basis.

Dr. R. Mankovitz suffered a heart attack in the Fall of 1977. This was followed by a cerebral embolus. This affected both his physical functions and his speech. After six months on the Queen's University sick leave plan Dr. Mankovitz began receiving benefits from the Queen's University Long Term Disability Plan.

Dr. David M. Robertson was appointed the Group Co-Ordinator at the time he became Chairman of the Department of Pathology on July 1, 1979. This coincided with Dr. Kaufman's resignation as Chairman of the Department of Pathology on June 30, 1979.

Dr. Alain E. Lagarde was appointed Assistant Professor in the Department of Pathology, Cancer Research Group, on January 1, 1981. Dr. Lagarde has a B.Sc., Ph.D. and D.Sc. from Lyon University, France. The addition of Dr. Lagarde further enhanced the immunology research potential of the Cancer Research Group.

CANCER RESEARCH GROUP

Dr. Robert G. Liteplo was appointed a Postdoctoral Fellow, Cancer Research Group, effective April 1, 1982, under Dr. Kerbel's supervision.

Dr. Suzanne Laferte was appointed a Postdoctoral Fellow, Cancer Research Group, effective October 1, 1982, under Dr. Elliott's supervision.

Dr. J.M. Dennis was appointed Assistant Professor, Department of Pathology, Cancer Research Group, effective April 1, 1983.