THE 10TH ANNUAL
FNIH AWARDS CEREMONY

A CELEBRATION OF EXCELLENCE IN BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH
2022 FNIH AWARDS CEREMONY

PRESENTING THE

Lurie Prize in Biomedical Sciences
Trailblazer Prize for Clinician-Scientists
Charles A. Sanders, MD, Partnership Award

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THE TRAILBLAZER PRIZE FOR CLINICIAN-SCIENTISTS
PRESENTED BY
Elaine K. Gallin, PhD
John I. Gallin, MD

TRAILBLAZER PRIZE RECIPIENTS
Eliezer M. Van Allen, MD
Nikhil Wagle, MD

THE LURIE PRIZE IN BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES
PRESENTED BY
Ann Lurie

LURIE PRIZE RECIPIENTS
Anne Brunet, PhD
Andrew Dillin, PhD

FIRESIDE CHAT WITH JULIE L. GERBERDING AND LURIE PRIZE RECIPIENTS

THE CHARLES A. SANDERS, MD, PARTNERSHIP AWARD
PRESENTED BY
Julie L. Gerberding
Steven M. Paul

PARTNERSHIP AWARD RECIPIENTS
Amgen
Francis S. Collins, MD, PhD

CLOSING REMARKS
For 10 years, the Lurie Prize in Biomedical Sciences has recognized outstanding achievement by promising scientists, aged 52 or younger.

First awarded in 2013 by the FNIH, the prize is bestowed by philanthropist Ann Lurie, reflecting her passion for advancing biomedical research and medicine. This year's recipients will each receive an engraved medal and a $50,000 honorarium.

A jury of five eminent scientists selects the Lurie Prize winner. The panel is chaired by Solomon H. Snyder, MD, Distinguished Professor of Pharmacology and Psychiatry, the Solomon H. Snyder Department of Neuroscience at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine.

JURY

Solomon H. Snyder, MD **CHAIR**
Lewis Cantley, PhD
Ronald M. Evans, PhD
Carl Nathan, MD
Susan S. Taylor, PhD
Drs. Brunet and Dillin are making significant advances toward a better understanding of how cells and the human body age, with critical implications for degenerative disease such as Alzheimer’s and Parkinson’s. I am excited to see the depth, breadth, and future impact of their work.”  

– ANN LURIE

Drs. Brunet and Dillin have pioneered independent but complementary research that illustrates the evolution of two master regulators of aging at the cellular level. Dr. Brunet has shown how specific biochemical modifications of the protein structures around which an organism’s DNA is organized can extend its life and that of its descendants. Dr. Dillin has revealed how mitochondria in neurons of the brain coordinate responses throughout the body that impact lifespan.

Lurie Prize Mentorship Program
The FNIH partners with the Global STEM alliance of the New York Academy of Sciences to inspire the next generation to explore careers in STEM. Through this program, middle and high school students from across the globe participate in an annual Expert Talk featuring the Lurie Prize winners. During this livestreamed event, students learn about the winners’ journeys to become biomedical researchers and are encouraged to ask questions about the science and about careers in STEM.

View past Expert Talks at fnih.org/LuriePrize.
Dr. Van Allen receives the Trailblazer Prize for his contributions to developing the science of personalized cancer care. Using innovative computational approaches, his research is helping to determine the impact of both inherited and environmental factors on cancer and the influence of genes on an individual’s response to cancer treatment.

Dr. Wagle receives the Trailblazer Prize for developing novel gene sequencing approaches to profiling cancer mutations that affect treatment response and drug resistance. In addition, he directs Count Me In, an innovative partnership between patients and researchers that empowers patients to actively participate in cancer research and speed the discovery of new treatments.
THE CHARLES A. SANDERS, MD, PARTNERSHIP AWARD RECIPIENTS

Francis S. Collins, MD, PhD
Former Director, National Institutes of Health
Acting Science Advisor to the President

As NIH Director, Dr. Francis Collins robustly supported the mission of the FNIH, advancing a remarkable list of initiatives. Not content to concentrate only on expanding scientific knowledge, he successfully navigated numerous challenges when confronted with human rights, privacy issues, and ethics to form an indelible legacy of what science and medicine can achieve.

Dr. Collins’ work as Director of the National Human Genome Research Institute expanded the promise of DNA in medical research, enabling the FNIH’s first major partnership with the institute and the Genetic Association Information Network to create a significant resource for genetic researchers.

Dr. Collins helped establish the NIH National Center on Advancing Translational Sciences, providing a critical venue for precompetitive public-private collaboration to speed the transformation of basic research into patient therapeutics. Launched with his leadership in 2014, the Accelerating Medicines Partnership program has become a powerful collaboration among the NIH, the FDA, and public and private organizations.

The Cancer Moonshot initiative, championed by Dr. Collins, enabled the FNIH-managed Partnership for Accelerating Cancer Therapies. Dr. Collins also deftly managed two of the largest crises challenging human health via FNIH partnerships. The HEAL (Helping to End Addiction Long-term) Initiative established an aggressive, trans-agency effort to speed scientific solutions to stem the national opioid crisis. ACTIV (Accelerating Covid-19 Therapeutic Interventions and Vaccines) met its goal of formulating safe and effective therapeutics and vaccines for Covid patients.

Dr. Collins’ impact on biomedical research and global health has set the standard for deep scientific commitment, and his steady support of the FNIH has helped create groundbreaking partnerships for navigating today’s complex biomedical landscape.

ACCEPTED BY

Robert A. Bradway
Chairman and CEO, Amgen

Amgen’s partnership over many years has had a strong impact on a diverse slate of FNIH initiatives—from clinical trials to mentorships to educational programs—all of which have advanced the mission and goals of the FNIH.

Amgen has provided generous financial and scientific support to the FNIH’s research initiatives in cancer, Immunotherapy, cardiométabic disease, and precision medicine.

In oncology, these include the innovative Lung Cancer Master Protocol trial and the Partnership for Accelerating Cancer Therapies. Since 2009, as a member of the FNIH Biomarkers Consortium, Amgen has contributed to many programs, including the Fluorodeoxyglucose-Positron Emission Tomography Lung and Lymphoma trial; Advanced metrics and modeling with Volumetric CT for Precision Analysis of Clinical Trial results; and the annual Cancer Scientific Symposium.

Outside of oncology, Amgen is a valued partner across many initiatives, including Accelerating Medicines Partnership® programs in Heart Failure and in Common Metabolic Diseases, and the Non-Invasive Biomarkers of Metabolic Liver Disease program.

A strong advocate for scientific education, training, and diversity, Amgen and its Foundation have supported the mentorship of 125 NIH scholars since 2015 through the FNIH-NIH Amgen Scholars program, and promoted women’s health through the Vivian W. Pinn Symposium.
Julie L. Gerberding, MD, MPH

Dr. Julie Gerberding joined the FNIH as CEO in May 2022. She previously served as Chief Patient Officer and Executive Vice President, Population Health & Sustainability, at Merck & Co., Inc., where she was responsible for patient engagement, corporate social responsibility, Environmental/Social/Governance issues, and other functions. Formerly, Dr. Gerberding oversaw Global Public Policy and Strategic Communications for the company. She joined Merck in 2010 as President of Merck Vaccines and was instrumental in increasing access to the company’s vaccines to people around the world.

From 2002 to 2009, Dr. Gerberding was Director of the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, where she led the agency through 40 emergency responses to public health crises, including the SARS-CoV-1 outbreak. She serves on the boards of the Mayo Clinic, National Health Council, Cerner Corporation, Case Western Reserve University, AfterNext HealthTech, and HilleVax. She also co-chairs the Center for Strategic and International Studies Commission on Strengthening America's Health Security.

Dr. Gerberding received her undergraduate and MD degrees from Case Western Reserve University and a Master of Public Health at the University of California, Berkeley. She completed her internship and residency in Internal Medicine and fellowship in Clinical Pharmacology and Infectious Diseases at the University of California, San Francisco, where she is currently an Adjunct Associate Professor of Medicine.

Joan Lunden

An award-winning journalist, bestselling author, television host, and motivational speaker, Joan Lunden has been a trusted voice in America for more than 40 years. For nearly two decades, Lunden greeted viewers each morning on Good Morning America making her the longest running female host ever on early morning television.

As an ardent health and senior advocate, Lunden has testified before the Food and Drug Administration advocating mandatory mammogram reporting and the Congressional House Ways and Means Committee advocating for the Family and Medical Leave Act.

Joan Lunden is the host of PBS television series Second Opinion with Joan Lunden and the Washington Post Podcast series Caring for Tomorrow on the future of healthcare. Lunden is also the ambassador to the Poynter Institute’s MediaWise for Seniors program which educates individuals over 50 on media literacy, separating fact from fiction online.

In June of 2014, Joan Lunden was diagnosed with triple negative breast cancer. An eternal optimist, she turned her diagnosis into an opportunity to become an advocate and help others. She has also served as national spokesperson for various organizations such as the American Heart Association, Mothers Against Drunk Driving, American Lung Association, American Red Cross, American Academy of Pediatrics, and the Colon Cancer Alliance.
THE FNIH

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The Foundation for the National Institutes of Health creates and manages alliances with public and private institutions to support the NIH, the world’s premier medical research agency. FNIH works with its partners to accelerate biomedical advances and therapies targeting diseases in the United States and across the globe. The FNIH organizes and administers research projects; supports education and training of new researchers; and holds educational events focused on areas of unmet medical need worldwide. Established by Congress in 1990, the FNIH is a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) charitable organization.