Endowed professorship honors contributions of George Canellos, MD, and Jean Canellos

George P. Canellos, MD, joined Dana-Farber Cancer Institute in 1975 as the first chief of medical oncology, and he continues to serve as the William Rosenberg Professor of Medicine at Harvard Medical School (HMS). To honor Dr. Canellos’ extraordinary career, George and Kaity David and their children, Harry David, Anastassis David, the late Nicola David-Pinedo, and Clemente Pinedo, recently committed $1.2 million toward a $3.3 million endowed professorship at Dana-Farber and HMS. Several others joined the Davids to make the professorship a reality.

“The promotion of education and academic learning has always been paramount for the David family and they recognize Dana-Farber as an undisputed center of excellence in the field of cancer research,” said Myrto Hatzaki, David family spokesperson. “After the devastating loss of their daughter, Nicola, the family remains committed to honoring her life and preserving her memory by making a gift they hope will help support vital work in cancer research.”

The professorship will be named the Nicola David-Pinedo Professorship until Dr. Canellos retires, at which time it will be re-named the George P. Canellos, MD, and Jean S. Canellos Professorship in honor of the couple’s commitment to Dana-Farber. An endowed seminar tied to the professorship will also be named for Nicola.

The Stavros Niarchos Foundation (SNF)—a private international philanthropic organization—issued a $1.1 million challenge grant to inspire others to support the professorship.

“The Stavros Niarchos Foundation has a long history of supporting academic medical centers and research institutes that set the standards for quality health care, education, and research around the world. Dana-Farber is one such center, benefitting society at large,” said Roula Siklas, program officer at SNF. “Dana-Farber and Dr. Canellos exemplify the excellence in medicine and leadership that inspire our grantmaking at SNF. We were very happy the challenge was met, motivating many others to support this professorship and maintain Dana-Farber’s excellent record of discovery and innovation to improve cancer care around the world. Our grant will honor Dr. Canellos’ contributions to the field and support Dana-Farber’s long-term commitment to the next generation of leaders in cancer care.”

The three Canellos sons, Andrew, Peter, George, and George’s wife, Pamela Mary Brown, made generous gifts in honor of their parents. “We’re deeply proud of our parents and grateful to everyone
who contributed to this professorship,” said Peter on behalf of his brothers. “Our father’s career has spanned almost the entirety of modern medical treatment for cancer, and we had front-row seats for many fascinating developments. Our mother’s dedication to the Institute, including her role in helping to create the Friends of Dana-Farber, shows how much a volunteer can do to help. It’s inspiring to think that those who occupy this professorship will be carrying on a mission about which our parents cared so much.”

John and Julene Stellato provided significant support for the professorship. “I first met George when I was treated for non-Hodgkin lymphoma at Dana-Farber,” John said. “I was immediately impressed by his knowledge of the disease, as well as his compassion for patients, and we became good friends over the years. It’s a privilege to come full circle and be able to give back and honor the man who saved my life.”

Dr. Canellos and his wife, Jean, also gave generously to the professorship. “Jean and I are a team,” said Dr. Canellos. “She is as much a part of Dana-Farber as I am through her participation in the founding and growth of the Friends of Dana-Farber during as many years as I’ve been on the medical staff. We are delighted to invest in this professorship, which we hope will enrich the lives of those exceptional investigators dedicated to cancer research and care for generations to come.”

GIFTS IN HONOR OF GEORGE CANELLOS, MD, AND JEAN SPEARE CANELLOS

Allyson Ahern
Edwin P. Alyea III, MD
Giada Bianchi, MD
Ellen L. Brinker
Andrew P. Canellos
George P. Canellos, MD,
and Jean Speare Canellos
George S. Canellos
and Pamela Mary Brown
Peter S. Canellos
Joan F. and Gorham L.
Cross, and their daughter
Heather Cross Woodworth
Corey S. Cutler, MD
George A. and Kaity David,
and their three children,
Harry G. David, Anatassis
G. David, Nicola David-
Pinedo∞ and Clemente
Pinedo
James DeCaprio, MD,
and Leslie Hanrahan
Nancy C. Downer
Glenn Dranoff, MD
F. Stephen Hodi Jr., MD
Mr. and Mrs. Robert A. Irvin
Dr. Ann Steward LaCasce
Anthony G. Letai, MD, PhD,
and Jean C. Letai
Dr. and Mrs. Yiannis
Monovoukas
Stavros Niarchos
Foundation
Jean F. Pearlstein
Paul G. Richardson, MD,
and Annie Richardson
Dr. Jerome Ritz
and Ms. Sara Mattes
William Rosenberg Family
Foundation, Inc.
Margaret A. Shipp, MD
Rowena Simberg
Robert J. Soiffer, MD,
and Stacey Sperling, MD
Julene and John Stellato
Mr. and Mrs. Michael
Tourkistas
Dr. and Mrs. James W. Triant
Jeffrey S. Wisch, MD,
and Cynthia Crofts-Wisch
∞ Deceased