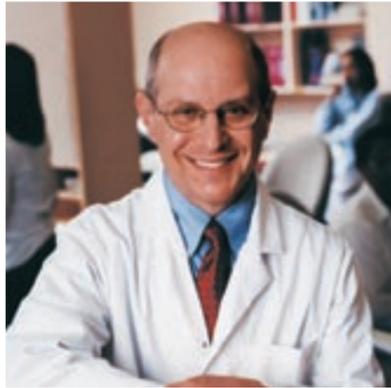


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Staff Appointments



Larry Norton

- **Larry Norton** was appointed Deputy Physician-in-Chief, Breast Cancer Programs. In his new role, Dr. Norton, along with other leaders of the Breast Cancer Disease Management Team, will work with physicians and administrators throughout MSKCC's regional care network to continue to develop breast cancer programs in all locations. He will also be involved in the development of closer interfaces between clinical research activities and relevant laboratory efforts and will oversee the creation of close functional links between breast cancer activities and the Center's increasing emphasis on survivorship and aging. Dr. Norton, who had been Head of the Division of Solid Tumor Oncology in the Department of Medicine, will continue to serve as the medical director of MSKCC's Evelyn H. Lauder Breast Center. He is the incumbent of the Norma S. Sarofim Chair in Clinical Oncology.

- **David W. Kissane** was appointed Chairman of the Department of Psy-



David Kissane

chiatry and Behavioral Sciences. He is responsible for a broad program of services, research, and training in the diagnosis and treatment of psychiatric problems related to cancer and its care. Dr. Kissane comes to MSKCC from his native Australia where most recently he was Foundation Professor of Palliative Medicine at the University of Melbourne. His professional interests include psychotherapy trials, controlling symptoms and increasing the comfort of patients with cancer, support of families during illness and bereavement, and end-of-life decision-making. He has been internationally recognized for his work characterizing demoralization in late-stage cancer patients and distinguishing between this and depression.

- **Kenneth J. Marians**, who holds a William E. Snee Chair, was named Director of Graduate Studies in the Sloan-Kettering Institute (SKI), where he also continues as Chairman of the Molecular Biology Program. Dedicated to the advancement of the understanding

of cancer biology and related sciences, graduate studies at SKI are offered under the guidance of the Institute's scientific staff, many of whom hold joint appointments on the faculty of Cornell University's Weill Graduate School of Medical Sciences. Dr. Marians is also spearheading plans to initiate a new PhD program in cancer biology within SKI that will capitalize on MSKCC's translational research resources.

- **Joan Massagué** was appointed Chairman of the newly created Cancer Biology and Genetics Program within SKI. Dr. Massagué, who chaired SKI's Cell Biology Program for 14 years, studies the regulation of normal cell division and the mechanisms of cancer metastasis. The Cancer Biology and Genetics Program is designed to help strengthen the bridge between clinical researchers who have expertise in treating cancer and basic science investigators who are unraveling the genetic, molecular, and cellular bases of the disease. A major organizational theme of this program will be to focus on particular types of cancer and to foster collaborations between clinicians and laboratory researchers in similar areas. Dr. Massagué is a Howard Hughes Medical Institute investigator and the incumbent of an Alfred P. Sloan Chair.

- **Nikola P. Pavletich** was named Chairman of SKI's newly formed Structural Biology Program. Dr. Pavletich, who

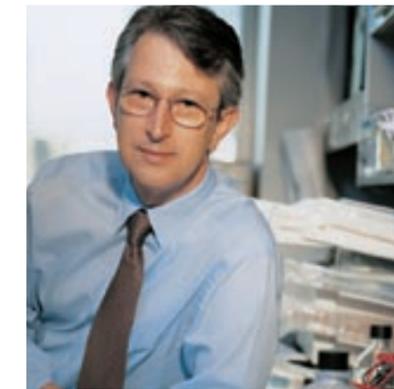


Kenneth Marians

heads the Laboratory of Structural Biology of Oncogenes and Tumor Suppressors, is a Howard Hughes Medical Institute investigator who uses x-ray crystallography to study the structure of proteins that play a role in transforming normal cells into cancerous ones. "Structural biology," says Dr. Pavletich, "is about 'seeing' the molecules that make up an organism. Investigators can analyze the structures of proteins involved in cancer to better understand their function and also to pinpoint potential targets for anticancer drugs." Dr. Pavletich joined SKI's Cellular Biochemistry and Biophysics Program in 1993. He is the incumbent of the Stephen and Barbara Friedman Chair.



David Spriggs



Joan Massagué

- **David R. Spriggs** was named Head of the Division of Solid Tumor Oncology in the Department of Medicine. Dr. Spriggs, who joined MSKCC in 1993 as Chief of the Developmental Chemotherapy Service, is an internationally known solid-tumor oncologist whose research centers on the genetic regulation of drug resistance and the evaluation of new chemotherapy regimens for gynecologic cancers. He is a physician-investigator who has a keen interest in translational research — linking clinical and laboratory observations together to better understand cancer and develop more effective treatments. Dr. Spriggs is the incumbent of the Winthrop Rockefeller Chair in Medical Oncology.

- **Yuman Fong** was appointed Chief of the Gastric and Mixed Tumor Service in the Department of Surgery. Since joining MSKCC's Hepatobiliary Service in 1993, Dr. Fong has achieved national and international recognition as a surgical oncologist, particularly with respect to the study of hepatic (liver and pancreatic) tumors. He is widely recognized for his expertise in performing delicate surgery for liver, gallbladder, bile duct, and pancreatic cancers and is also among

the most experienced surgeons in the United States in using a minimally invasive laparoscopic approach to removing tumors of the liver and pancreas. Dr. Fong is the incumbent of the Murray F. Brennan Chair in Surgery.

- **David H. Abramson** has been appointed Chief of the newly created Ophthalmic Oncology Service in the Department of Surgery, with parallel appointments in Pediatrics and Radiation Oncology. An internationally renowned surgeon, Dr. Abramson's focus is ophthalmic oncology, including intraocular tumors (retinoblastoma in children, melanomas in adults), ocular surface malignancies (melanomas and squamous cell carcinomas), eyelid tumors, and orbital tumors. Prior to joining the MSKCC staff, he was a Clinical Professor of Ophthalmology at NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital's Weill Cornell Medical Center.

- **Jeffrey S. Groeger** was appointed Chief of the newly formed Urgent Care Service in the Department of Medicine. The service is an outgrowth of the Urgent Care Center (UCC) — Memorial Hospital's "emergency room" — where people undergoing cancer treatment as outpatients can come for immediate attention, at any time of the day or night. Dr. Groeger is striving to ease their transition to either hospitalization or a return home and to make the UCC a friendlier environment for patients and their families. An internist who

specializes in critical care medicine, Dr. Groeger was Medical Director of the Special Care Unit before being appointed to his new position.

- **Richard M. Steingart** was appointed a Member, Memorial Hospital, and named Chief of the Cardiology Service in the Division of General Medicine. He is working with the Breast Cancer Medicine Service and the Thoracic Disease Management Team to develop ways to detect and prevent the cardiovascular toxicity that can accompany cancer treatment. Dr. Steingart, who came to MSKCC from Winthrop-University Hospital in Mineola, New York, is also Director of Nuclear Cardiology, affiliated with the Department of Radiology's Nuclear Medicine Service.

- **Mary McCabe** was named Program Director for MSKCC's new Cancer Survivorship Initiative, which was created to address the needs of former cancer patients as well as those living with cancer as a chronic disease. Ms. McCabe came to MSKCC from the National Cancer Institute (NCI), where she served most recently as Director of Education and Special Initiatives. Following work as an oncology nurse and clinical nurse specialist, she was named Director of Nursing Services at the Lombardi Cancer Center at Georgetown University Medi-



Mary McCabe

cal Center in 1983. In 1988 she joined the NCI where she served in a number of key positions relating to clinical trials and issues in medical ethics.

- **JoAnne Lynn Sparks** was appointed Director of Library Services, Nathan Cummings Center. Ms. Sparks came to MSKCC from Bristol-Myers Squibb's Pharmaceutical Research Institute in Princeton, New Jersey. As Director of Content Integration and Access in their Knowledge Integration Resources program, she was a leader in developing services and systems for managing information. She brings to MSKCC more than 20 years' experience in university and research libraries and an expertise in building and developing these resources to better support the mission of their institutions. Ms. Sparks holds a master's degree in library science from Case Western Reserve University.

Endowed Chairs

An endowed chair represents one of the highest honors MSKCC bestows on its most talented faculty. During 2003, one new chair was established and eight clinicians and researchers were named to existing chairs.

- **Barrie R. Cassileth** was named the first incumbent of the newly established Laurance S. Rockefeller Chair in Integrative Medicine. Dr. Cassileth joined MSKCC in 1999 as Chief of the newly established Integrative Medicine Service. Under her guidance, the service has developed into a multifaceted program of clinical care, research, education, and training. The chair was made possible by a gift from Mr. Rockefeller, Honorary Co-Chairman of MSKCC's Boards, and reflects his long-held belief that "the synergy between medical science and the power of each individual patient's mind, body, and spirit join in the healing process." In announcing the chair, the Boards honored Mr. Rockefeller's continuing advocacy for the Center's



Barrie Cassileth

mission through 56 years of Board membership and acknowledged his "far-sighted vision and his enduring commitment to progress in cancer care, research, and education."

- **Kathryn V. Anderson**, Chairman of SKI's Developmental Biology Program, was named to the Enid A. Haupt Chair in Developmental Biology. Dr. Anderson, who previously held the PaineWebber Chair in Genetics, is a highly respected scientist doing innovative work in developmental genetics. Her research focuses on the genes that control the immune response in fruit flies and those that control early development in the mouse embryo. The chair she holds is one of eight endowed by Mrs. Haupt in 1989.

- **Prasad Jallepalli**, head of the Laboratory of Chromosomal Instability and Cancer, was named to a Frederick R. Adler Chair for Junior Faculty. Dr. Jallepalli studies the mechanisms that control the fidelity of chromosome trans-



Prasad Jallepalli



Marc Rosenblum

mission in human cells. It is suspected that this transmission may be disrupted in some cancers. The Adler chairs support the work of outstanding young scientists and are awarded on a rotating basis to MSKCC researchers recently appointed to the rank of Assistant Member.

- **Thomas J. Kelly**, Director of the Sloan-Kettering Institute, was named to the Benno C. Schmidt Chair of Cancer Research. Dr. Kelly is a noted physician-scientist whose research has focused on how the genome is duplicated during the cell cycle, particularly the ways in which replication of DNA is initiated and controlled. The chair he holds honors the late Mr. Schmidt, who joined MSKCC's Boards in 1961 and served as Chairman from 1982 until 1990.

- **Richard J. O'Reilly**, Chairman of the Department of Pediatrics and Chief of the Bone Marrow Transplant Service, was named the first incumbent of the Claire L. Tow Chair in Pediatric Oncology Research. Dr. O'Reilly is a world-renowned pediatrician who established MSKCC's bone marrow transplantation program. The chair he holds was established in

2002 through the generosity of Leonard Tow as a gift to his wife, Claire, in honor of their 49th wedding anniversary.

- **Marc K. Rosenblum**, Chairman of the Department of Pathology, is the new incumbent of the James Ewing Alumni Chair of Pathology. Dr. Rosenblum has made significant contributions to the understanding of cancers arising in the nervous system and is an expert in the complications of cancer and its treatment. The Ewing chair is named for the distinguished scientist who is considered to be one of the founders of tumor pathology in the United States. Dr. Ewing, who came to Memorial Hospital in 1913 as Director of Cancer Research, was one of the guiding forces in establishing it as an institution devoted to the study and treatment of cancer.

- **Deborah Schrag**, of the Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics and the Department of Medicine, was named to



Deborah Schrag

the Elizabeth and Felix Rohatyn Chair for Junior Faculty. Dr. Schrag is a medical oncologist and clinical epidemiologist whose research involves national policy regarding the delivery of cancer care in the United States. She and her colleagues study ways to optimize the quality of cancer care in order to decrease cancer-related illness and death. As a clinician, Dr. Schrag has special interest in the treatment of gastrointestinal cancers. The chair she holds was established by the Rohatyns to support the work of a promising young clinical or laboratory scientist.

- **Robert E. Wittes**, Memorial Hospital's Physician-in-Chief since 2002, was named to the Vincent Astor Chair of Clinical Research. Dr. Wittes came to his current position from the National Cancer Institute, where he oversaw key elements of the nation's cancer research effort. The chair he holds is part of the Astor family's long tradition of support for the Center.

- **W. Douglas Wong** was named the first incumbent of the Stuart H.Q. Quan Chair in Colorectal Surgery. Dr. Wong, a renowned colorectal surgeon and an

authority on endorectal ultrasonography (a means of evaluating the extent of colorectal cancer), is Chief of the Colorectal Service in the Department of Surgery and co-leader of the Colorectal Disease Management Team. He is highly regarded as a teacher and mentor to junior physicians. His chair was established in 2002 to honor Dr. Quan, Member Emeritus of MSKCC, in recognition of his dedication to those with cancer during his 51 years at MSKCC.



The following individuals received academic appointments or promotions during the past year:

MEMBER LEVEL

APPOINTMENTS

Hans G. Lilja <i>Department of Clinical Laboratories</i>	Peter Kijewski <i>Department of Medical Physics</i>	David Klimstra <i>Department of Pathology</i>
David W. Kissane <i>Chairman, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences</i>	Ronald A. Kross <i>Department of Anesthesiology and Critical Care Medicine</i>	
Richard M. Steingart <i>Chief, Cardiology Service Department of Medicine</i>	Brian H. Kushner <i>Department of Pediatrics</i>	Gikas S. Mageras <i>Department of Medical Physics</i>

PROMOTIONS

Jeffrey A. Boyd <i>Department of Medicine</i>	Lee A. Niswander <i>Developmental Biology Program</i>
Chandra M. Burman <i>Department of Medical Physics</i>	Kenneth Offit <i>Chief, Clinical Genetics Service, Department of Medicine</i>
Jonathan D. Goldberg <i>Structural Biology Program</i>	David G. Pfister <i>Department of Medicine</i>
Allan C. Halpern <i>Chief, Dermatology Service Department of Medicine</i>	Philip Schulman <i>Department of Medicine</i>
Lucy Hann <i>Department of Radiology</i>	Kent A. Sepkowitz <i>Department of Medicine</i>
Joseph M. Huryn <i>Department of Surgery</i>	

Charles A. Sklar <i>Department of Pediatrics</i>	Andrew Jackson <i>Department of Medical Physics</i>
Ellen D. Yorke <i>Department of Medical Physics</i>	Joseph G. Jurcic <i>Department of Medicine</i>
	Vincent A. Miller <i>Department of Medicine</i>

ASSOCIATE MEMBER LEVEL

APPOINTMENTS

John J. Fiore <i>Department of Medicine</i>	Elizabeth A. Morris <i>Department of Radiology</i>
Christopher D. Lima <i>Structural Biology Program</i>	Maria Theodoulou <i>Department of Medicine</i>
William J. Schneider <i>Department of Medicine</i>	

PROMOTIONS

Ariadne M. Bach <i>Department of Radiology</i>	Richard A. Rifkind <i>Chairman Emeritus, Sloan-Kettering Institute</i>
Mary K. Baylies <i>Developmental Biology Program</i>	Morton K. Schwartz <i>Chairman, Department of Clinical Laboratories</i>
Farid Boulad <i>Department of Pediatrics</i>	Francis A. Sirotnak <i>Molecular Pharmacology and Chemistry Program</i>
Joseph J. Disa <i>Department of Surgery</i>	
Robert J. Downey <i>Department of Surgery</i>	

EMERITUS APPOINTMENTS

Donald Armstrong <i>Department of Medicine</i>
Kenneth O. Lloyd <i>Immunology Program</i>



Statistical Profile and Registry Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center

PATIENT CARE	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Patient Admissions: Adults	16,938	17,348	17,213	17,428	17,903
Patient Admissions: Children	1,283	1,454	1,523	1,420	1,351
Total Admissions	18,221	18,802	18,736	18,848	19,254
Total Patient Days	130,875	127,106	129,951	128,214	131,089
Average Patient Stay (days)	7.2	6.8	6.9	6.8	6.8
Bed Occupancy Rate ⁽¹⁾	82%	79.5%	82.6%	82.3%	84.1%
Outpatient Visits: Manhattan	266,868 ⁽²⁾	280,614 ⁽²⁾	286,424 ⁽²⁾	286,960 ⁽²⁾	300,655
Outpatient Visits: Regional Network	49,215	55,909	68,886	75,862	88,000
Total Outpatient Visits	316,083 ⁽²⁾	336,523 ⁽²⁾	355,310 ⁽²⁾	362,822 ⁽²⁾	388,655
Screening Visits	40,821	40,622	37,780	38,167	37,357
Surgical Cases	13,957	14,171	14,052	14,079	14,536
Radiation Treatments & Implants: Manhattan	58,652	57,586	67,029	63,623	63,761
Radiation Treatments & Implants: Regional Network	40,042	39,551	44,088	46,962	49,974
Total Radiation Treatments & Implants	98,694	97,137	111,117	110,585	113,735
X-ray Examinations & Special Procedures	187,487	206,311	218,615	233,075	255,768
Clinical Investigation Protocols ⁽³⁾	346	379	386	385	439

(1) Based on adjusted bed count.
 (2) Restated from previous publication.
 (3) Excludes studies closed to accrual.

STAFF	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Center ^{(1) (2)}	575	580	593	644	667
Hospital Attending Staff	505	513	529	577	595
Sloan-Kettering Institute Members ⁽²⁾	111	111	107	108	115
Registered Nurses	1,037	1,141	1,146	1,186 ⁽⁴⁾	1,233
Total Employees ⁽³⁾	7,133	7,296	7,609	7,917 ⁽⁴⁾	8,255
Volunteers	650	752	720	726 ⁽⁴⁾	838

(1) All Hospital Attendings and Institute Members hold appointments in the Center; in 2003, 43 Institute members also held appointments as Hospital Attendings.
 (2) Includes professional support staff appointments.
 (3) Includes all clinicians, scientists, nurses, other health professionals, and support staff.
 (4) Restated from previous publication.

EDUCATION

	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Residents & Clinical Fellows: Positions	330	326	337	346	383
Residents & Clinical Fellows: Annual Total	930	1,202	1,072	1,226	1,325
Postdoctoral Research Fellows	288	306	288	318	365
Research Associates	80	82	76	81	77
Senior Research Scientists	11	18	18	21	28
PhD Candidates	108	116	116	115	141
MD/PhD Candidates	19	21	25	23	26
Registrants in Continuing Medical Education Programs	1,576	1,385	1,787	1,462	1,842
Medical Observers	-	550	408	350	386
Medical Students	176	200	167	188	244
Nursing Students	34	47	47	63	79
Social Work Students	6	7	6	7	10
Radiation Oncology Technology Students	11	12	19	20	20
Cytotechnology Students	0	4	4	3	4
Physical Therapy Students	2	3	4	2	3
Occupational Therapy Students	1	1	1	2	0

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Awards and Honors

- **Carol Aghajanian**, Acting Chief of the Developmental Chemotherapy Service, and **Gero A. Miesenböck**, Head of the Laboratory of Neural Systems in the Sloan-Kettering Institute's (SKI) Structural Biology Program, were the recipients of the Louise and Allston Boyer Young Investigator Awards, presented at MSKCC's 2003 Convocation.

- **Howard I. Amols**, Chief of the Clinical Physics Service, was named president-elect of the American Association of Physicists in Medicine, a member society of the American Institute of Physics.

- Psychiatry Service Chief **William S. Breitbart** received the 2003 Research Award from the Academy of Psychosomatic Medicine. The award honors an outstanding researcher in the psychiatry of the medically ill.

- Pathologist **Carlos Cordon-Cardo** was honored by the Spanish American Medical Dental Society of New York for his outstanding achievements in the field of molecular pathology research.

- **Samuel J. Danishefsky**, Head of SKI's Bioorganic Chemistry Laboratory, received the Mayor's Award for Excellence in Science and Technology. These awards, which are administered by the New York Academy of Sciences and the City of New York, underscore the importance of science and technology to New York City.

- Radiologist **D. David Dershaw** was elected president of the Society of Breast Imaging.

- Medical oncologists **Teresa A. Gilewski** and **Andrew D. Seidman** received the Gay Clark Stoddard Memorial Award from the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation for providing breast cancer patients with "a high level of care, compassion, humanity, skill, support, inspiration, a sense of humor, understanding, and honesty." Nominations for this award are made by patients.

- Radiology Chairman **Hedvig Hricak** received the Marie Curie Award, the highest honor of the American Society



Carol Aghajanian (left) with Physician-in-Chief Robert Wittes

of Women Radiologists. She was also awarded the gold medal of the International Society of Magnetic Resonance in Medicine.

- **Steven A. Leibel**, Chairman of the Department of Radiation Oncology, was named vice president of the American Board of Radiology (ABR) and will assume the presidency in 2004. The mission of the ABR is to serve the public and the medical profession by certifying that its diplomates have acquired, demonstrated, and maintained a requisite standard of knowledge, skill, and understanding essential to the practice of radiology, radiation oncology, and radiologic physics.

- **Stephen D. Nimer**, Head of the Division of Hematologic Oncology in the



Samuel Danishefsky



Steven Leibel and Hedvig Hricak

Department of Medicine, was named to the Board of Directors of the Myelodysplastic Syndromes Foundation.

- Deputy Physician-in-Chief **Larry Norton** was elected Chairman of the Board of Directors of the ASCO Foundation. The foundation is a charitable organization that provides financial support for the American Society of Clinical Oncology's educational programs and services in cancer care and prevention, career development, and patient education.

- Neuro-oncologist **Jerome B. Posner** was elected to membership in the American Academy of Arts & Sciences. Founded in 1780, the Academy is an international learned society composed of the world's leading scientists, scholars, artists, business people, and public leaders.

- The American Association of Clinical Chemistry honored **Morton K. Schwartz**, former Chairman of the Department of Clinical Laboratories, with



Susan Slovin



Morton Schwartz

its 2003 Award for Outstanding Contributions to Clinical Chemistry.

- **Ashok R. Shaha**, of the Head and Neck Service, was named president-elect of the New York Surgical Society.

- **Susan F. Slovin**, of the Genitourinary Oncology Service, received the 2003 Physician of the Year Award from CancerCare — a national non-profit organization whose mission is to provide free professional help to people with all cancers through counseling, education, information, referral, and direct financial assistance.

- **James W. Young**, of the Bone Marrow Transplant Service, was appointed a member of the Cancer Immunopathology and Immunotherapy Study Section at the National Institutes of Health.

And in 2003, membership in the 20-Year Club grew to more than 1,800 members, as 63 new members were welcomed. This group of active and retired staff members with 20 or more years of service to the Center includes some ten percent of our active staff. In addition, 50 staff members were recognized for achieving 30 years, 16 for 35 years, five for 40 years, and two members for achieving more than 50 years of service to MSKCC.

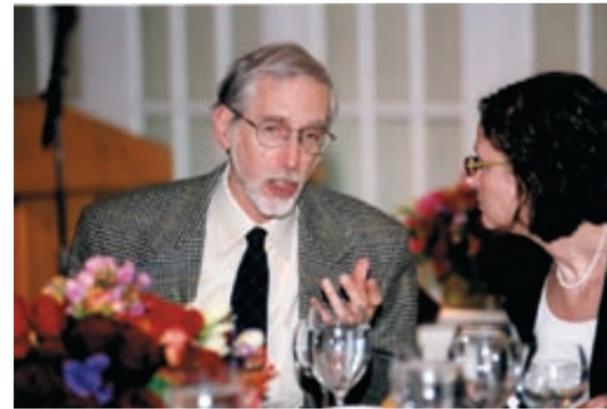
Paul Marks Prize for Cancer Research



Three young investigators who have already made major contributions to cancer research were recognized in 2003 with the **Paul Marks Prize for Cancer Research**. Named after Paul A. Marks, President Emeritus of MSKCC, the prize recognizes significant contributions to the basic understanding and treatment of cancer by scientists who are no more than 45 years old at the time they are nominated.

The winners were pathologist Yuan Chang, of the University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute; biochemist and geneticist John F.X. Diffley, of Cancer Research UK London Research Institute; and structural biologist Nikola P. Pavletich, a Howard Hughes Medical Institute investigator at MSKCC. The three investigators shared a \$125,000 award.

Dr. Chang is a co-discoverer of the Kaposi's sarcoma-associated herpes virus (KSHV). The most recently identified virus linked to human cancers, KSHV causes Kaposi's sarcoma, the most common cancer in patients with AIDS. Infection with KSHV can also lead to a type of B cell lymphoma and Castleman's disease, a noncancerous but severe disorder characterized by enlargement of the lymph nodes. Until Dr. Chang and her husband and collaborator, Patrick Moore, discovered KSHV in 1994, the infectious agent that causes Kaposi's sarcoma remained unknown. They are now studying the genes in KSHV



Martin Abelloff (above left) at the awards dinner. Dr. Abelloff is Chairman of MSKCC's Board of Scientific Consultants and Director of the Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center at Johns Hopkins. (Above right, from left to right) Award winner Yuan Chang, Marks Prize selection committee chairman Jeffrey Friedman of The Rockefeller University, MSKCC President Harold Varmus, and Dr. Chang's husband and collaborator, Patrick Moore.



to gain insights into the processes in cells that lead to cancer.

Dr. Diffley was honored for his work studying DNA replication — the process by which a cell copies its genetic material before it divides. Proper DNA replication is essential to maintaining the integrity of the genome, and loss of this integrity can lead to cancer. Working primarily with yeast, Dr. Diffley has studied how replication begins, the mechanisms that ensure replication is triggered only once during each cell cycle, and what happens when replication is not initiated properly. His team has identified and characterized several proteins required for DNA replication to begin.

Dr. Pavletich holds the Stephen and Barbara Friedman Chair in the Sloan-Kettering Institute and is Chairman of SKI's new Structural Biology Program. He leads a laboratory that uses x-ray crystallography to discern the three-dimensional structures of proteins involved in cancer. In 1994, Dr. Pavletich produced the first 3-D image of the p53 tumor suppressor protein, which normally puts the brakes on rampant cell growth. He and his team

later elucidated the structures of proteins that run the cell's growth program — the cell division cycle — showing how they control growth and how their mutation contributes to cancer. Last year, Dr. Pavletich demonstrated that the BRCA2 protein interacts directly with DNA to help repair genetic damage. Mutations in the BRCA2 gene can increase the risk of breast and ovarian cancers.

"These young independent investigators have made definable contributions to a range of disciplines related to cancer biology," says MSKCC President

Harold Varmus. "From virology to structural biology to cell cycles and genetics, their distinctive and creative discoveries play an important role in our understanding of cancer and may eventually aid in the development of new treatments for this disease."

The first Paul Marks Prize was awarded in 2001. It is presented every other year. The prize was created by MSKCC's Boards of Overseers and Managers at the time of Dr. Marks's retirement to honor his many contributions as a distinguished scientist, leader, and teacher.



Paul Marks (second from left) and Harold Varmus (center) with award winners (from left) Nikola Pavletich, Yuan Chang, and John Diffley at the awards dinner in December 2003.