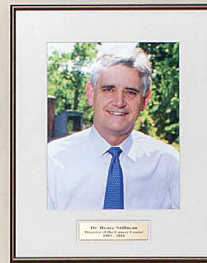
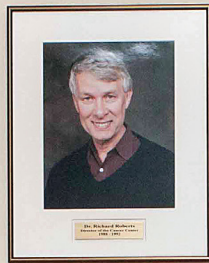


Taking center stage



Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory CANCER CENTER



In November 2016 Dr. David Tuveson was named Director of the Laboratory's National Cancer Institute (NCI)-designated Cancer Center. "What a privilege," he later commented. "I feel as if I have been asked to come in and take the baton of the New York Philharmonic! For the last 25 years Bruce Stillman has ensured the Center's greatness by appointing rising stars. Our opportunity is to continue to excel in discovery science while translating our insights into diagnostics and therapies to defeat cancer."

Of Tuveson's three predecessors, Stillman has shaped the Cancer Center as it exists today, having guided it through five NCI sponsorship renewals. During this time, basic research has revealed cancer's genetic roots, making possible a first generation of targeted therapies.

Tracing cancer's roots in aberrant genes and cellular signals fulfills a vision that launched the modern era of cancer research at CSHL. Soon after becoming Director in 1968, James D. Watson committed the Laboratory to tumor virus study, in 1971 securing a key NCI grant. In the 1980s, research grew to include the study of cellular oncogenes, cell growth and cell-cycle control. NCI cancer center designation came in 1987. Watson, the Center's

first director, yielded to Richard Roberts in 1988. In 1992, Stillman took the reins.

Under Stillman, the Hillside Campus, which opened in 2009, enabled growth of the cancer program. In 2015, he piloted a strategic affiliation with Northwell Health to accelerate the translation of basic research to the clinic.

"Basic science has been our underpinning," explains Tuveson. "Proof-of-concept experiments in animal models have prepared the way for our current opportunity of testing therapies to interrupt cancer progression. Our new relationship with Northwell Health will spur unique collaborations in which basic scientists will work closely with practicing physicians to get tumor samples and also get involved in designing clinical trials."

Basic insights won't only be leading to experiments in mouse models "but also in patients who *have* cancer. It's going to be meaningful and productive and I hope many of our scientists will get to participate in that, while they continue to pursue the fundamental research that they are world leaders in."

Peter Tarr