Dear Colleagues,

I am delighted to announce the appointment of Matthew Meyerson, MD, PhD, as the new Charles A. Dana Chair in Human Cancer Genetics at Dana-Farber. This Dana-Farber chair was one of two chairs established in 1992 with a gift from the Dana Foundation. Until his passing in October 2021, this prestigious chair was held by David Livingston, MD.

Matthew serves as the Director of the Center for Cancer Genomics and a member of the Division of Molecular and Cellular Oncology in the Department of Medical Oncology at Dana-Farber, Professor of Genetics and Medicine at Harvard Medical School, and an Institute Member of the Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard. He received his MD in 1993 and PhD in 1994 from Harvard University and completed his residency at Massachusetts General Hospital and research fellowships at the Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research. Matthew joined Dana-Farber in 1998 and is widely regarded as a preeminent leader in cancer genome discovery and its translation into breakthrough therapies.

Matthew and his team work to identify and understand the genomic events that lead to human cancer, applying this understanding to cancer drug development and discovering infectious causes of cancer. One example is their discovery of mutations in the EGFR gene that contribute to lung cancer, made together with Pasi Janne, MD, PhD, Bruce Johnson, MD, PhD, Bruce Johnson, MD, and William Sellers, MD. More broadly, his laboratory concentrates on cancer genome discovery and pathogen discovery in human disease. Among his many accolades and recognitions, Matthew was awarded the Paul Marks Prize for Cancer Research in 2009, was named the second-most influential scientist in the world in all fields of science by Thomson Reuters in 2014, was elected to the prestigious National Academy of Medicine in 2018, was the recipient of the Alfred G. Knudson Award in Cancer Genetics by the National Cancer Institute (NCI) in 2019, and was inducted into the Giants of Cancer Care® program in 2021 as one of five Dana-Farber faculty members to join this prestigious class.

Matthew has held several prominent leadership positions at Dana-Farber and across institutions in the Boston area and beyond. Matthew serves as Scientific Director of Profile, which is one of the world’s most comprehensive precision cancer medicine initiatives developed by Dana-Farber and its partner hospitals. He has been co-chair of the Executive Committee for The Cancer Genome Atlas (TCGA) project of the NCI. He is also a co-principal investigator, along with Wendy Garrett, MD, PhD, of a program on the cancer microbiome through Cancer Grand Challenges, a global funding initiative founded by Cancer Research UK and the NCI. In addition, he serves on many committees, including Dana-Farber’s Executive Committee for Research, as well as multiple faculty search committees, and is passionate about mentoring graduate students and research fellows in his laboratory.

As the next Charles A. Dana Chair in Human Cancer Genetics at Dana-Farber, Matthew will continue to build on Dana-Farber’s position as a leader in genomic research and its application to patient care. Please join me in congratulating Matthew on this distinguished honor and thanking him for his continued dedication to uncovering the mechanisms of cancer and improving care and treatment for patients everywhere.

Thank you, as always, for the role you play in serving and supporting our patients and families.

Warmly,

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