

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**PANCREATIC CANCER ACTION NETWORK NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR ITS 2009 RESEARCH GRANTS PROGRAM**

***Organization will Award over \$1.2 Million in Grants for Pancreatic Cancer Research***

**EL SEGUNDO, CA – (October 21, 2008)** – The Pancreatic Cancer Action Network announces it is accepting applications for its 2009 Research Grants Program. The program is designed to stimulate innovative research on pancreatic cancer, foster collaboration across disciplines and institutions, and grow the number of scientists working on this disease. The deadline for submissions is November 10, 2008. The grant terms will begin on July 1, 2009.

Pancreatic cancer is the fourth leading cause of cancer death in the United States and will strike nearly 38,000 Americans this year and over 33,000 will die. It is the most lethal cancer with the five year survival rate less than 5%.

In an effort to speed advances in pancreatic cancer research, the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network has partnered with the American Association for Cancer Research (AACR) on three initiatives to promote and support outstanding research focused on conquering this deadly disease.

**Pancreatic Cancer Action Network - AACR Pilot Grants**, ranging from \$100,000 to \$200,000 over the two-year grant term, are open to independent investigators and support new ideas and innovative models that have direct application and demonstrate direct relevance to pancreatic cancer. In addition to pancreatic cancer researchers, investigators with experience in other areas of cancer research who have promising and realistic ideas or research approaches that can be applied to pancreatic cancer are invited to apply. Special emphasis will be placed on research that is not duplicative of other efforts. Up to six grants will be awarded.

**Pancreatic Cancer Action Network - AACR Career Development Awards** provides \$100,000 over the two-year grant term to junior faculty who are in their first full-time appointment and have completed postdoctoral studies or clinical fellowships no more than three years prior to the start of the grant term. Five grants will be awarded.

**Pancreatic Cancer Action Network - AACR Research Fellowship** provides a one-year grant of \$45,000 to Postdoctoral Fellows or Clinical Research Fellows who will be in the first, second, or third year of their postdoctoral training at the start of the fellowship term. One grant will be awarded.

Funding decisions are based on a rigorous peer review system administered by the AACR to ensure that the highest quality science is supported. Since launching the program in 2003, the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network has provided over \$3.7 million to support 38 research grants. With the commitment of funds for 2009, total support for pancreatic cancer research will total close to \$5 million.

For more information, visit [http://www.pancan.org/Research/AACR\\_grants08.html](http://www.pancan.org/Research/AACR_grants08.html). The Pancreatic Cancer Action Network welcomes inquiries about the Grants Program from qualified scientists and from individuals who are interested in funding a grant or learning more about funding opportunities.

**About the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network**

The Pancreatic Cancer Action Network is the only national organization creating hope in a comprehensive way through research, patient support, community outreach and advocacy for a cure. The organization raises money for direct private funding of research—and advocates for more aggressive federal research funding of medical breakthroughs in prevention, diagnosis and treatment of pancreatic cancer.

The Pancreatic Cancer Action Network fills the void of information and options by giving patients and caregivers reliable, personalized information they need to make informed decisions. We create a sense of hope and community so no one has to face pancreatic cancer alone. The organization helps support individuals and communities all across the country work together to raise awareness and funds to find a cure for pancreatic cancer.

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