Professor Michelle HABER



Professor Michelle Haber is Executive Director of Children's Cancer Institute and is internationally recognised for her world-class research in developing novel therapeutic and diagnostic approaches to improve the outcome of children with acute lymphoblastic leukaemia and neuroblastoma. Prof Haber has identified and validated several molecular targets that drive the growth and development of childhood cancer, identified promising new drugs to inhibit the action of these targets, and combined existing and new treatments into novel therapeutic approaches that have been rapidly translated into national and international clinical trials. She has brought new standards of care to Australian children with cancer, exemplified by her establishment and leadership of the ZERO Childhood Cancer national personalised medicine program, which is enabling every child and young person with cancer in Australia to have tailored therapy targeting the specific genetic and biological characteristics of their individual tumour, irrespective of type of cancer or level of risk. Prof Haber was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia in 2007 and appointed an Inaugural Fellow of the Australian Academy of Health and Medical Sciences in 2015, as well as a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Science in 2022. In 2023, Michelle was awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Advances in Neuroblastoma Research Association, in recognition of a lifetime of invaluable contributions to neuroblastoma pathogenesis and treatment, the Lifetime Achievement Award, CEO Magazine Executive of the Year and the Australian Healthcare and Hospitals Association (AHHA), Sidney Sax medal for outstanding health leadership.

Doctor Robbie MAJZNER



Robbie Majzner is the Director of the Pediatric and Young Adult Cancer Cell Therapy Program at Dana Farber Cancer Institute/Boston Children's Hospital. He is focused on the development and deployment of immunotherapies for pediatric cancer. He received his MD from Harvard Medical School followed by training in pediatrics at New York Presbyterian-Columbia and pediatric hematology-oncology at Johns Hopkins and the National Cancer Institute. His work in the laboratory centers on engineering platform technologies to improve the efficacy of CAR T cells in solid tumors and overcome therapeutic resistance. Concurrently, he is focused on translating laboratory advances in innovative clinical trials for children with incurable cancers.

Professor Alessio CIULLI



Alessio Ciulli studied chemistry in Florence, Italy, and obtained his PhD as a Gates Scholar from the University of Cambridge, UK, in 2006. After postdoctoral research as a College Research Fellow at Cambridge and a brief visit at Yale University in the USA, he returned to Cambridge to start his independent laboratory in 2010 upon the award of a BBSRC David Phillips Fellowship. In 2013, he was awarded an ERC Starting Grant and moved to the University of Dundee, UK, where he was promoted to full professor in 2016. He has received numerous prizes and awards for his discoveries, including the EFMC Prize for Young Medicinal Chemist in Academia (2015), the ICBS Young Chemical Biologist Award (2015), the RSC Capps Green Zomaya Award (2016), the RSC MedChemComm Emerging Investigator Lectureship (2016), and the Prous Institute - Overton and Meyer Award for New Technologies in Drug Discovery (2022). In 2023 he was elected Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh (FRSE). He is the scientific founder of Amphista therapeutics, a targeted protein degradation company spin out of his laboratory, and the founder and director of the University of Dundee's new Centre for Targeted Protein Degradation (CeTPD) which opened its laboratories in January 2023. The Ciulli research group designs and develops small molecules inducing targeted protein degradation and modulating protein-protein interactions. Their research takes a multidisciplinary approach including organic and medicinal chemistry and computational tools to design and developed high-quality molecules; structural biology and biophysics to study binary and ternary complexes in solution and reveal structural and dynamic interactions; and chemical biology, biochemistry, proteomics and cell biology to study the cellular impact of our small molecules into relevant cellular systems and disease models, Ciulli is passionate about translating fundamental research via collaboration partnerships with the biopharma industry and by creation of spin-out companies.

Professor Claudia ROSSIG



Claudia Rossig received her medical degree at the University of Luebeck in Germany, then joined the Department of Pediatric Hematology and Oncology of University Children's Hospital Muenster, Germany, as a Clinical Fellow. Between 1998 and 2000, she was a Postdoctoral Fellow with Malcolm Brenner in the Center for Cell and Gene Therapy, Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, USA. After finishing her clinical training as a Pediatrician in 2005 and her speciality registration as a Pediatric Hematologist and Oncologist in 2007, she is now director of the Department of Pediatric Hematology and Oncology in Muenster. Since 2023, she is an affiliated group leader at the Princess Máxima Center for Pediatric Oncology in Utrecht, NL. Her experimental research focuses on the development of cellular immune-therapeutic strategies to treat pediatric malignancies, including both leukemias and solid tumors.

Professor Rolf MARSCHALEK



Rolf Marschalek has studied biology/biochemistry at the University of Erlangen/Nuremberg and completed his PhD in 1989. During his post-doc period, he worked on "jumping genes" and on the molecular basis of cellular transcription. In 1992, he became assistant professor at the newly founded Institute of Genetics in Erlangen, where he began his work on MLL/KMT2A translocation and the pathogenesis of high-risk leukemia. In 2000, he was appointed as full professor at the Institute of Pharmaceutical Biology of the Goethe-University in Frankfurt/Main. In 2005, he founded the Diagnostic Center of Acute Leukemia (DCAL), where he and his colleague Dr. Claus Meyer have since discovered over 100 new cancer genes fused to the MLL/KMT2A gene (MLL recombinome). Rolf Marschalek's group is currently working on new therapeutic strategies for juvenile t(4;11) high-risk leukemia.

Professor Franck BOURDEAUT



Franck Bourdeaut is a pediatric oncologist at the Curie Institute, Paris, professor of pediatrics at the University of Paris-Cité and deputy director of the INSERM 1330 Pediatric Cancer research unit "CONERT3 at the Curie Institute. His research team focuses on SMARCB1-dependent oncogenesis, its epigenetic effects, and the immune response it induces. As such, he has been chairing the SIOPE ATRT working group from 2018 to 2022.