For Immediate Release

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Ovarian Cancer Research Fund
Awards $5.4 Million in 2012 Research Grants
OCRF receives record number of grant applications; continues to fund the best science

New York, NY January 3, 2012— Ovarian Cancer Research Fund (OCRF) has awarded $5.4 million in grants for ovarian cancer research this year. After receiving over 100 applications – the highest number in its history – OCRF and its prestigious Scientific Advisory Committee endeavored first and foremost to fund the best science. The Committee evaluated each proposal through intensive peer review, and selected a sound portfolio of 2012 grants that represent the present and future of ovarian cancer research.

These exciting grants address two important themes in the field: understanding how and where ovarian cancer originates at the genetic molecular and tissue levels; and developing novel, creative approaches to improving therapy for ovarian cancer.

"This research is a recognition that ovarian cancer should not be treated similarly in all cases. Rather than a one-size-fits-all approach, developing therapies designed to target an individualized tumor is vital," says Jeff Boyd, Ph.D., chair of OCRF's Scientific Advisory Committee and a senior vice president at Fox Chase Cancer Center. "And, as we gain a better understanding of the origins of this extraordinarily complex disease, this may inspire a rebirth and a new wave of research into much-needed screening and early detection methods."

OCRF's 2012 grants, which range from $75,000 to $900,000, were awarded to 14 scientists. These grantees are conducting groundbreaking research at 12 leading medical institutions in the United States, including Baylor College of Medicine, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, MD Anderson Cancer Center, and Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine.

From collaborative teams of the most experienced senior investigators awarded the *Program Project Development Grant*, to the *Liz Tilberis Scholars Program* which supports junior faculty with a strong commitment to the field, to promising young postdoctoral and clinical fellows awarded the *Ann Schreiber Ovarian Cancer Research Training Program of Excellence Grants* at the beginning of their research careers, OCRF grantees are the brightest men and women in the field today.

"OCRF is dedicated to advancing the field of ovarian cancer research. We are funding cutting-edge science, pushing its boundaries to improve screening methods, treatments and outcomes, and bringing hope to the thousands of women facing ovarian cancer each year, " says Audra Moran, CEO of Ovarian Cancer Research Fund. "With every new grant we award, we strengthen our deeply held belief that research is the key to finding a cure for this devastating disease."

For more information, including a complete list of OCRF's 2012 OCRF grantees and descriptions of our 3 research programs, please visit our website at www.ocrf.org.

About Ovarian Cancer Research Fund (OCRF)

Ovarian Cancer Research Fund (OCRF) is the largest private non-profit organization in the United States dedicated exclusively to funding ovarian cancer research. Our mission is to fund scientific research that leads to more effective identification, treatment, and ultimately a cure for ovarian cancer. Each year there will be approximately 22,000 new cases of ovarian cancer in the United States, and about 15,500 women will die of the disease. Currently there is no effective means of early detection.

Since 1998, OCRF has awarded 178 grants to scientists at more than 60 leading medical centers in the U.S., an investment of nearly $45 million for ovarian cancer research. Thanks to the generosity of our donors, OCRF-sponsored investigators are developing innovative strategies for early detection; exploring the genetics that increase risk for ovarian cancer; understanding the underlying molecular biology of the disease; identifying new and better targets for treatment; and deciphering how and why ovarian cancer spreads, and how to stop it.

Visit www.ocrf.org to learn more and join us in the fight.

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